



## Portfolio £42,000 to be won

There is £42,000 to be won in the Times Portfolio competition today. The weekly prize of £20,000 is doubled because no one won last Saturday, and to it is added the daily £2,000. There were three winners in the competition yesterday. Miss Susan Harvey of Winchester, Mrs Lydia Laid of Hadden, London, and Mrs Joyce Watkins of Aylesbury. Backs each received £1,333. Portfolio list, page 28; weekly prize list, information service, back page.

## Soldier gets life for 3 killings

A Royal Scots soldier, Corporal Andrew Walker, aged 31, was jailed for life at the High Court, Edinburgh with a recommendation that he serve at least 30 years after being found guilty of shooting a retired Army major and two serving soldiers in a £19,000 payroll robbery. Page 3

## Boycott call in coal dispute

Pit deputies' leaders urged them to boycott new shift arrangements which the coal board is planning to reduce the impact of their overtime ban. The effect of the ban may be felt today. Page 2

## Sextuplet dies

Daniel Underhill, one of the sextuplets born in Cambridge on May 2, died yesterday. The other five babies are in a stable condition in intensive care.

## Lloyd's plea

The managing director of Richard Beckett Underwriting Agencies, the troubled Lloyd's firm, has asked that an independent chairman be appointed. Page 2

## Beirut barrage

Beirut's residents took refuge in basements and bomb shelters as 20 days of sectarian bloodletting escalated into fierce rocket and artillery exchanges. Page 4

## Revenge threat

A radical black group vowed to avenge a police attack on their headquarters in Philadelphia on Monday in which 11 people died. Page 6

## Pits protest

More than 700 miners walked out of two South Wales pits in protest at life sentences passed on two colleagues who killed a taxi driver. Page 2

## Chess rematch

Marseilles is the first choice of venue for a replay of the world chess championship between Anatoly Karpov and Gary Kasparov, the International Chess Federation said in Tunis.

## Black candidates

Brent South, in London, a safe Labour constituency, has short-listed three blacks for the selection of the party candidate for the next general election.

## Actor dies

Hugh Burden, who played the detective Mr J. G. Reeder on television and was one of the best known voices on radio, died aged 72. Obituary, page 10

## Wembley hopes

Stuart Jones, previous FA Cup Final at Wembley between Everton and Manchester United. Page 31

## Gower captain

David Gower has been appointed England captain for the one-day internationals against Australia but not for the Test matches. MCC have chosen four "rebels" to face the Australians. Page 32

## Enigma

Would-be codebreakers will find this week's last Enigma Enigma clue in the back page information service. It could be your opportunity to win an exciting holiday in Bangkok.

Leisure page, 9  
On high technology, from Mr Parry Mitchell, and Mr D. Tebbutt; Pope and communism, from the Rev R. R. Brinkman, S.J.; and others  
Leading articles: Sport after Bradford; Inflation; Northern Ireland elections  
Obituary, page 10  
Mr Hugh Burden, Mr James Stroudley

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# Inflation of 6.9% is highest in two years

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The Government's handling of the economy was criticized strongly yesterday, after the announcement of a surge in the rate of inflation to 6.9 per cent.

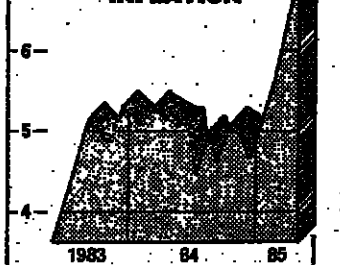
The retail prices index rose by 2.1 per cent last month alone, its biggest monthly rise for four years. The index was 373.9 (January 15, 1974=100) last month, compared with 366.1 in March.

The 6.9 per cent inflation rate was the highest since September 1982, it compared with 6.1 per cent in March and 3.7 per cent at the time of the last election, in June 1983.

Mr Roy Hattersley, deputy leader of the Labour Party and shadow Chancellor, said the figures showed up the Government's "disastrous mismanagement of the economy."

"The Government has staked its credibility on reducing inflation," Mr Hattersley said, "but inflation has nearly doubled since the last election."

"The fear is that Mrs Thatcher, in the face of her own prediction that inflation will come down to 3 per cent before the next election, will attempt to bring this about by increasing



## Pym maintains defiance

While ministers seized on the worsening inflation figures yesterday to use as ammunition against Mr Francis Pym's new pressure group, Conservative Centre Forward, Mr Pym himself renewed his call for "adjustments" to the Government's economic policy (Our Political Editor writes).

And in spite of his promise to back-bench colleagues at Westminster on Thursday that there would be no formal "whipping" of his 30-strong group to vote as

a bloc against the Government, he reserved the right to take collective action in the Commons if they wished.

While Mr Nigel Lawson and Mr Tom King in their speeches yesterday countered the Pym group's calls for limited reform, other members of the Cabinet made it plain in private that they believed the group's anxieties would have been taken very seriously by the Government and the Conservative Party.

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unemployment - just as this Government did during its first term of office."

Around half of the increase in the retail prices index last month was due to higher housing costs. That reflected the one point rise in mortgage rates, as well as increases in local authority and water rates.

The Budget increases in duties added to prices of petrol (up 5p a gallon), beer (up 2p a pint) and cigarettes (up 4p for a pack of 20). Higher gas and electricity prices, the television licence increase and increased prices for milk and most fresh fruit and vegetables, also contributed to a higher rate.

The Liberal leader, Mr David Steel, said that if the dole queue was lengthening and inflation going up, even if the Government must begin to wonder whether her economic policies are not fundamentally wrong.

The Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, addressing businessmen in Leicester, predicted that inflation would fall back sharply in the second-half of the year, and stuck to his Budget forecast of a rate of 5 per cent by the end of the year.

He said the April inflation figure was too high for comfort, but came down to 5.3 per cent over the past year "if we exclude the somewhat distorting effects of fluctuations in the mortgage rate."

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, said figures did not indicate any general surge in prices. Food, fuel and light, household durables and clothing had all risen by less than 5 per cent over the last year.

Public borrowing, page 21

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Mr Kinnock with Mr David Sharpe, a plastic surgeon, when he visited St Luke's Hospital, Bradford, yesterday.

## Full horror of football fire revealed

From Peter Davenport Bradford

The full horror of these trapped inside the burning, smoke-filled main stand at Bradford City football ground was revealed yesterday at the opening of the inquest on the 52 victims.

Evidence from police surgeon who coordinated an intensive search of the charred and blackened stand after the fire was brought under control last Saturday disclosed just how many died in the rush to locked doors and turnstiles at the back of the stand.

More than 43 people headed for the stand in the rush to escape, died trapped where the fire was fiercest.

Dr David Fieldhouse, senior police surgeon with West Yorkshire police, said 43 of the 50 bodies recovered from the stand were in the top rear area.

Sixteen of them were piled together by turnstiles next to G block, where the fire started; 12 together near a short passage leading to double doors; five on a walkway along the side of the stand behind the seats; and four jammed against turnstiles in the centre of the stand.

Three other victims were found in the men's toilets, and one in the short passage leading to the double doors.

Dr Fieldhouse said that three ladies were found close to the wall between the stand and

Continued on page 2, col 4

## Owen 'copping out to Tories' says Kinnock

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of the Labour Party, yesterday declared war on the Government's proposals for reshaping the welfare state and challenged the Alliance parties to declare themselves.

The struggle over the future of the State-earnings related pension scheme (Serps), which the Government proposes to phase out, he described as a conflict between two implacably different sets of values.

And he lashed Dr David Owen, leader of the Democratic Party, who has called for all-party discussions on the future of Serps.

He described Dr Owen as a political renegade, "contriving a cop-out to the Tories" and accused him of having "an ego as big as a mountain."

Mr Kinnock, who was speaking at Llandudno to the annual conference of the Welsh Labour Party, allowed his Welsh tongue full rein. He accused the Conservatives of "daylong grand larceny."

"It is a policy of total war against the whole provision of support and care and opportunity and security."

Mr Kinnock said that leaks and evasions had already revealed the pattern of the review of benefits which Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, is to publish next month.

The Fowler proposals were not just an attack on the welfare state but a full-scale assault on the stage of wellbeing of people right across the country.

Cuts in housing, supplementary and unemployment benefit meant that these would be given poverty, and only at a level which guaranteed that they remained in poverty, Mr Kinnock said.

"The Government are going to get rid of Serps, and millions who now believe themselves to be secure, to be assured of their standard of living after retirement, will be victims."

The Conservatives did not want earnings-related pensions for all, but only for those who could afford to buy them privately. Their excuse that the country could not afford Serps was an admission that Tory policies would weaken the economy that Britain would not be able to foot the bills for decent retirement incomes.

Mr Kinnock then went on to relish for Dr Owen, "the leading actor, scriptwriter, sceneshifter and makeup artist of the SDP", saying it was no good anyone looking to the Alliance to defend today's needy or tomorrow's pensioners.

He claimed that Dr Owen was following a "well-worn path". Quoting Nye Bevan he said that political renegades "always start their career with treachery as the best men of all parties, and end up in the Tory knacker."

Fighter outline, page 5

## Shift by France boosts Euro-fighter project

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

In ten hours of negotiations defence ministers from five Nato nations have given fresh impetus to a £20 billion project, to produce a new agile fighter aircraft, which had seemed in danger of stalling.

The scheme would be the biggest example of collaboration between European nations in defence production.

About 1,000 would be needed, but it has been proving difficult to reconcile the interests of Britain, France, West Germany, Italy and Spain.

In the talks which ended yesterday, however, progress was made on three key points which will provide guidelines for further studies to be considered in London on June 18.

● The aircraft weight is to be about 9.5 tonnes, which may rise by 550lb.

● Although power needed from a new engine will depend on the aircraft configuration, a compromise between France's wish for a relatively light engine and the British desire for a bigger one with greater development potential will initially be examined.

● To avoid delay while a new engine is produced, an existing engine will be used in prototypes.

Studies will examine whether this should be the RB-199 used in the Tornado fighter-bomber and in the British Experimental Aircraft Programme, or the General Electric F404, which the French use in their experimental aircraft. Both engines may be used.

Frequently described as obsolete, the French this week seem to have made concessions in agreeing to consider the RB-199 as an interim engine, and possibly also over weight.

Soon after the success of the Sexual Offences Bill came the whirlwind passage of Mr Michael Bates's Rent (Amendment) Bill, which he introduced under the 1-minute rule only three days ago, and which completed its entire Commons career in a total time of under 10 minutes.

The Bill seeks to close a loophole in the rent Acts revealed by a recent Court of Appeal case, in which a homeowner seeking to reclaim his home from a tenant found that he could not do so because the first tenant had left and had been succeeded by another.

Two weeks ago the Government promised urgent action to close the loophole, which arose through an oversight in consolidating earlier Acts.

It ought to be law within a month.

## Union to defy ban on Tube strike

By David Felton Labour Correspondent

Leaders of the National Union of Railwaymen last night decided to defy a High Court injunction ordering them to call off an indefinite strike on the London Underground, due to start on Monday.

The executive of the union decided to put themselves in conflict with the law after London Regional Transport was granted the injunction on the grounds that the union had instructed its members to strike without first holding a ballot.

The injunction, which was granted by Mr Justice Tudor Price, runs until a full trial or further order. The NUR was not represented at the hearing.

Last night's unanimous vote could leave the union liable, at the very least, to a claim for damages by LRT of up to £25,000, and possibly a fine for contempt imposed by the High Court.

The only previous example of open union defiance of a court order brought under the balloting provisions of the Trade Union Act, 1984, led to the Transport and General Workers Union being fined £200,000 for contempt.

Around 12,000 NUR members are thought to be affected by the strike instruction, which has been issued because on Monday LRT plans to run trains without guards on the East London line.

The union argues that previous experience of one-person operation on other lines has shown drivers' suffer from increased stress, and should be allowed a 45-minute break after each two-hour period of continuous driving. LRT said last night that it was an agreement to operate without guards.

If Monday's strike goes ahead, the Underground network will be almost totally shut down affecting more than two million passengers who use it each day. LRT said last night that it was hoping to be able to run some services.

Mr Tony Ridley, LRT chairman and managing director, yesterday wrote to all staff saying that the strike would be "particularly damaging at a time when we have been winning passengers back to the system."

LRT indicated that it would pursue the injunction by returning to court next week, but in the meantime is hoping that its actions will create divisions among the NUR's membership and encourage some to defy their union's instructions.

British Rail engineering workers at Swindon yesterday voiced overwhelming for an immediate overtime ban and a one-day stoppage on May 29, as part of a campaign against the closure of their works from next March with the loss of 2,300 jobs.

Tube background, page 2

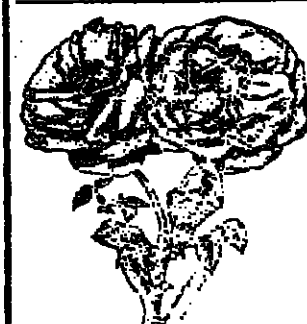
## THE TIMES 1785-1985

INSIDE



## Big guns and pot shots

Jackie Stewart's clay pigeon class page 11



## Rose-coloured spectacle

The Times Rose at the Chelsea Show page 16

## Dishes with best wishes

Choosing china for a wedding present page 15

## MONDAY



## Monday Britain's greatest living painter

Francis Bacon's retrospective at the Tate Gallery

## 10 + Unequal struggle for equality

How have women fared in the last 10 years?

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## Soldier given minimum of 30 years for 'callous' payroll killings

A Royal Scots soldier was yesterday found guilty of the Army payroll killings and jailed for life, with a recommendation that he serve at least 30 years.

The sentence equals the longest recommended minimum given for murder in Scotland in modern times.

The jury at the High Court in Edinburgh, took 90 minutes to reach a unanimous verdict. Corporal Andrew Walker, aged 31, was found guilty of shooting a retired army major and two serving soldiers on January 17, and robbing them of £19,000.

Lord Grieve, the judge, described the killings as "brutal, callous and calculated". The crime would bring revulsion to all right-thinking people, he said. Walker had shown himself to be unworthy to be a member of his "famous and distinguished" regiment.

Walker, a small arms instructor based at Kirknewton, Lothian, sat impassively as the jury returned its verdicts. As he was led away after the sentence, he shook his fist.

Walker's three victims, Major David Cunningham, aged 56, Staff Sergeant Terence Hosker, aged 39, and Private John Thomson, aged 25, were shot in the Pentland Hills, south of Edinburgh, shortly after picking

up a payroll for Glenconce Barracks.

The three men were former colleagues of Walker, who was an instructor at Glenconce, the Scottish infantry training depot, shortly before the murders.

The bodies of the men, with sub-machine-gun wounds, were found by a deserted cottage in Floterstone Glen, Lothian. Walker was also found guilty of trying to pervert the course of justice by attempting to smuggle a letter out of prison, blaming the killings on the IRA, and guilty of theft from an Army bar last October.

Before sentence was passed, Mr Donald Macaulay, QC, for the defence, told the judge Walker had no previous convictions, and still maintained his innocence.

Walker, who had lodged a special defence of alibi, claimed he was driving elsewhere at the time. His trial lasted three weeks, and more than 60 prosecution witnesses were called. Only two appeared for the defence, including Walker, who gave evidence for more than six hours.

Only £100 of the £19,000 has been recovered. The police believe the rest is hidden somewhere in the Pentland Hills.

Walker's record as a regular soldier was first class. He had three tours of duty in Northern Ireland, on one of which he was mentioned in dispatches.

But to his Royal Scots comrades, who nicknamed him "Billy Liar", he was a compulsive braggart, telling tall stories with himself as the star. He had no close friends and was generally unpopular. With his swaggering went a need for money.

The crime was, in the words of one senior police officer, a simple military solution to Walker's desperate lack of money. At the end of 1984,

when faced with a £2,000 car bill, his solution was to order an £8,500 MG Maestro, claiming he would pay cash on delivery in February. At the same time he owed £900 to Access, the credit card company.

He told his wife, Mary, aged 27, who lived in married quarters with their children John, aged seven, and Cheryl, aged four, that he had found a cache of money on one of his many solitary walks.

Then he persuaded a comrade to lend him his car, and was waiting outside the Royal Bank of Scotland when the payroll was collected.

It was disclosed during police investigations that it was not the first time Walker had set his trap. In December, he planned to commit the crime when a £50,000 Christmas payroll was picked up, but on that occasion the soldiers parked at the front, instead of the rear, entrance of the bank.

Walker's weapon was a Sterling sub-machine-gun which he had signed out of the armoury using his position as an arms instructor. Police believe he forced the party to drive away from the bank, and shot Sgt Hosker through the chest when he attempted to tackle him. Then the Land Rover was ordered on to a quiet country track off the A702, leading to a reservoir.

At some point in the next three miles, with Pte Thomson driving on deep, rutted snow and ice, Maj Cunningham was shot through the head.

Pte Thomson was forced to unload his dead comrades, before being shot through the head. Walker then shot him again in the abdomen to make sure he was dead. The killings followed the pattern of an IRA execution.

But Walker left several clues and the deep snow helped to lead to his early detection.



Andrew Walker: Brutal and callous killings

## Bomb victim killed in plane crash

A former Army lieutenant after being blown up by IRA bombers was shown in two television documentaries, has been killed in a holiday flying accident.

Mr Paul Currell, aged 29, whose funeral will take place Tuesday in Harpenden, Hertfordshire, died when his micro-light aircraft went into a spin over south-western France and crashed.

He was injured while leading his platoon from the Royal Anglian Regiment on patrol in Belfast in July 1978. His right leg was blown off and he suffered severe injuries to his left leg, head, chest and hands.

The two policemen killed when their Optima aircraft crashed at Ringwood, Hampshire, on Wednesday died "very quickly" from multiple injuries, an inquest into their deaths was told when it opened at Southampton yesterday. It was adjourned until July 18.

## Vermin in kitchen of Wheeler's

Wheeler's Restaurants of London were fined £4,600 at Bow Street magistrates' court yesterday after admitting eight charges under food hygiene regulations.

It was also ordered to pay £338 costs to Westminster City Council which brought the prosecution after a visit by environmental health officers to the company's restaurant in Old Compton Street, Soho.

Miss Penelope Bird, representing the City Council, told the court that when two officers carried out a routine inspection of the kitchen on September 27 last year they found "a large number of live cockroaches and debris of thick blackened grease covering various surfaces".

There were also deposits of old food debris stuck to parts of the equipment. "Conditions were such that there was a risk of food contamination,"

Mr Richard Beckett, for the company, said that three days before the visit the kitchen had been inspected by the company's vermin control contractors, who had given it "a clean bill of health".

The contract with this firm had been ended

## Opera chief joins grants review call

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The Government is coming under increasing pressure to remove the responsibility of giving grants to large arts institutions from the Arts Council, and to fund the main companies directly.

The move comes in the wake of disquiet in the arts world about the way the Arts Council has passed on the latest round of arts grants increases from the Government.

A leading arts figure said yesterday: "If the Arts Council do no more than pass on the increase we receive from the Arts Minister, we may as well have the money direct, as happens in France."

The Royal Opera House has become the latest company to call for a review of the effects of the latest round of grants. Sir Claus Moser, the company's chairman, said yesterday that the Government ought to launch an urgent study into the way the arts are financed, and the effects of present policies.

The Opera House faces "draconian" cuts in its operations if the Government continues to squeeze arts expenditure, Sir Claus said.

Putting Covent Garden firmly behind the National Theatre and other vocal opponents of the present policies of both the Government and the Arts Council, Sir

£6,122 damages for woman who cannot give hugs

Mrs Monica Wilton, a social worker, aged 33, yesterday won £6,122 damages in the High Court for car crash injuries that stopped her hugging her children. Her right breast was crushed and she suffered shoulder injuries in the crash in June, 1983. Miss Helen Arkwright of Lister Close, Hitchin, denied liability for the head-on crash.

Mrs Wilton, of Tenneyson Avenue, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, whose children are now aged 10, 12 and 14, had had an operation to improve her bust with silicone implants in 1977. But the crash changed the appearance of her breast and left it painful to the touch.

It was a unique case, Mr Justice Hirst, who made the award, said. "She is learning to live with it. It is difficult to do things and she is frightened of being jostled in school or in the shops."

But Lord Lane said how impressed he had been. "I hope

## Pool table rotates to save space

Whirl pool: John Branch playing on a space-saving snooker and pool table, which his company has built in the Bluebell Inn at Dogsthorpe, Peterborough.

To rotate it the player puts his cue butt on to a switch under the table.

The firm has had 500 inquiries already and hopes to be producing 20 a week in the near future. (Photograph: Bill Warhurst)

## Arab princess whipped maids

A Kuwaiti princess who beat her two maids so severely that they had scars all over their bodies was sentenced at Knightsbridge Crown Court yesterday to six months' imprisonment, suspended for two years.

Simiya Alsbah, aged 30, who admitted two charges of wounding and two of causing actual bodily harm, was also fined £500 with £250 costs and ordered to pay the maids a total of £2,750.

Her sister, Faria Alsbah, received a similar sentence last February for the same offences. Counsel for Simiya Alsbah said yesterday that she had not

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## Sub captain 'banned' woman scientist

Dr Yvonne Hawkins, a defence scientist, told an industrial tribunal in Bristol yesterday that she was asked to leave a nuclear submarine and prevented from doing her job because she is a woman.

Dr Hawkins, aged 33, expected to take part in six days of sonar trials on the newly-built HMS Turbulent. But after only two hours in the submarine she was told to go because there was no accommodation or facilities for her, she told the tribunal.

That was despite several similar assignments in the past where sleeping arrangements had been made for her, she said.

Dr Hawkins said: "It was a very humiliating experience. I was just trying to do my job but the captain told me the submarine was full and that it was company policy not to allow women on board."

"Their attitude shocked me and made me very angry and, after failing to reason with them, I wanted to take the matter to an industrial tribunal."

Dr Hawkins, of Portland, Dorset, is alleging sexual discrimination by Vickers Shipbuilding and Engineering and the Ministry of Defence, for whom she works at the Admiralty Research Establishment in Portland.

She claims that shortly before the tests in Loch Striven in Scotland she was told there would probably be no place on the submarine for her. In the past she had used the cabins of male crew while they were on duty.

The hearing continues on Monday.

## Early house sales deadline proposed

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

An early exchange of binding contracts for the sale of a house, two weeks after the decision in principle to buy, is recommended in a government study on ways to simplify house buying, published yesterday.

The report of the inter-departmental study, issued by the Department of the Environment, would reduce delay and uncertainty, the main source of concern about the house-buying process.

To encourage earlier exchange of binding contracts the report recommends that building societies and banks should be more willing to pre-qualify properties or borrowers for loans, subject to the usual checks on income and valuation.

It also says that bridging finance should be more easily available, with costs spread over the life of the loan, in order to break house-buying chains.

Issued the day after the Government announced that it was withdrawing its proposed legislation on opening up conveyancing to building societies and banks, the report cautiously supports that plan.

"There should be a presumption against obstacles to bodies offering a more integrated service, unless the obstacle is expressly accepted by Government as a necessary element of consumer protection", it says.

The study was ordered early in 1984, at the same time as the establishment of the Faraday conveyancing committee, to undertake a "wide-ranging review" designed to identify ways to simplify and speed up the process.

It reported last October and was published yesterday "to add to the debate on the simplification of house purchase". Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, said.

It will be considered with the conveyancing committee's report "in consultation with those affected by their recommendations".

The report urges speedier responses by some local authorities to local searches and solicitors' supplementary inquiries, and calls for greater competition

among conveyancers "when the present favoured position of solicitors in private practice is changed", and suggests there may be more scope for competition with and between estate agents.

In the longer term, the report proposes continuing simplification of house buying, particularly the legal aspects.

*Simplifying House Buying* (DOD Publications Sales Unit, Building 1, Victoria Road, South Ruislip, Middlesex, £2.80).

## Salmonella inquiry ends

The long-running public inquiry into the food-poisoning epidemic which killed 19 patients at Stanley Royd Hospital, Wakefield, West Yorkshire, last summer ended yesterday.

It had heard evidence from more than 100 witnesses about how the salmonella outbreak

began and spread, and how it was handled. About 300 patients and staff were taken ill. A draft report could be ready in four weeks' time and the final document may be with Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, who ordered the inquiry, by August.

## 'Life' for killing shop assistant

A north London man was jailed for life at the Central Criminal Court yesterday for the murder of a supermarket assistant.

Paul Hammore fired a shortened shotgun at point-blank range into the face of Miss Bebebe Bhagoloo, aged 31, who was working alone in her brother's store in Hertford Road, Ponders End, north London.

Hammore, of Eastfield Road, Enfield, denied murdering the shop assistant last June and possessing a gun with intent to endanger life. The jury found him guilty on all charges.

Hammore, described by psychiatrists as ruthless, restless and suspicious, told the jury the gun went off by accident.

## Beach explosion inquest opens

An inquest into the death of Melissa Jane Downs, aged six, who was killed with three other children when a mine exploded on a Red Sea beach in Egypt, was opened yesterday by the Cotswold District coroner.

The hearing was adjourned until June 21 because the coroner is awaiting a Foreign and Commonwealth Office report on the incident.

## More poison gas tests on animals

The number of experiments carried out on animals at Porton Down chemical warfare establishment had risen because of the threat from Soviet chemical weapons, Mr John Lee, Under Secretary of State for Defence Procurement, said in a Commons-written reply yesterday.

Mr Lee said that experiments had risen from 9,500 in 1983 to 10,900 last year.

# British TELECOM

## Information for Shareholders

If you are one of almost 1,750,000 people who have shares in British Telecom you are probably aware that the second instalment of 40p a share is due to be paid by 24th June 1985.

At the end of May the Government will send you a reminder about the instalment which tells you exactly how much you have to pay and how to do so.

If you think you will be away from home in June you can arrange to pay the second instalment now. To do so, you should write to Lloyds Bank Plc, Registrar's Department, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, West Sussex BN12 6DA; they will tell you what to do.

The Stock Exchange price of BT's shares will be adjusted on 28th May to take into account the extra 40p you will be paying.

If you are one of the individuals who bought shares in the flotation you became a founder shareholder. At that time you were able to apply for special benefits by way of either bill vouchers OR the share bonus.

By paying the second instalment and retaining a shareholder until 25th June 1985 you will remain eligible for EITHER—

● **Bill vouchers.**

You will receive the following number of vouchers depending on how many shares you have held since the flotation—

200 shares—one voucher in July 1985 worth £18.

400 shares—two vouchers in July 1985 worth £36

800 shares—two vouchers in July 1985 worth £36 and (if you still hold these shares on 23rd December 1985) two more vouchers early next year also worth £36... OR—

● **Share bonus.**

To keep your entitlement to one free share for every ten shares bought at the time of flotation you must retain at least that number of shares until 30th November 1987, and pay the second and third instalments.

All shareholders are eligible for—

● **Dividends.**

The first dividend is expected to be 3.9p per share (net of tax) and will be payable in August 1985. So if you hold—

200 shares you will receive £7.80.

400 shares you will receive £15.60.

800 shares you will receive £31.20.

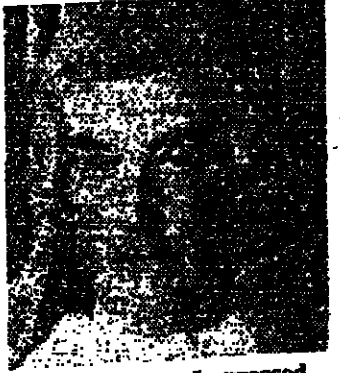
An interim dividend for 1985-86 is also expected to be paid in February next year.

\*From the end of May you will only be able to deal in BT's shares on the basis that the instalment has been paid.

**NOTE: The bill vouchers and share bonus only apply if you bought shares in the initial offer of November 1984.**

## Lord Lane completes a busman's holiday

From Our Correspondent, Shrewsbury



Lord Lane: Impressed with running of court

The Lord Chief Justice, Lord Lane, yesterday completed a week sitting in a court far removed from his normal workplace in the Strand.

He announced some months ago that he intended to refresh his experience of lower courts. That he chose Shrewsbury was probably no accident: he is an Old Salopian.

Officers at the bright and modernized Crown Court in Shrewsbury quietly admitted to an attack of nerves beforehand. But Lord Lane said how impressed he had been. "I hope

it does not sound patronizing, but the work has been done quickly and expeditiously." Probation service reports were "absolutely first rate, as good as any I have ever seen".

Before these words the Lord Chief Justice had jailed two men for 30 months and three years after they had admitted several thefts and burglaries. A third man was sentenced to 200 hours' community service.

Mr Michael Homfray-Davies, for the defence, had cautioned against regarding them as "some kind of an

animal or someone fit to be shot. They are human beings." He added: "They were so wrapped up with their disenchantment with life."

Lord Lane told the three men that being unemployed and living on State benefits did not excuse their actions. People whose homes had been burgled suffered "distress, fear, terror and a feeling of disgust".

Earlier in the week he put a woman on probation after a jury unanimously found her guilty of shoplifting.







## Pope plea for peace over Ypres graves

**From Ian Murray, Brussels**

**Stepping out:** Young dancers give the Pope a break from the sombre side of his visit to Ypres yesterday.

The Pope replied that he could understand women's concern, but suggested that they already had a real role in the church. He made no comment on marriage for priests or about divorced people.

## Chequers meeting will demand finesse by Kohl

**From Frank Johnson, Bonn**

over contacts with Bonn, were at pains not to "go it alone" over China.

Herr Kohl's priority at the moment, then, is to repair relations with France. He will be visiting Paris later this

the world economic situation, plus a few cautious thoughts on East-West relations. But there is an extra complication in Thursday's blocking by West Germany of cuts in cereal prices paid to farmers. This is the result of an unforeseen develop-

essentially an alliance between French farming and West German industry. But now, it seems, West Germany has a large number of part time small farmers to whom the Bonn politicians must pay attention.

**From David Watts, Tokyo**

majority of working women - more than half all married women work - are part-time employees, which the new law will do little to protect.

**End of an era, page 8**

**From Neil Kelly**

The Malaysian communists are believed to have turned to heroin to finance their insurgency against the Malaysian and Thai governments. China, which was their main supporter, has discontinued aid.

Right now you won't find a better deal from any other national building society.

**From Our Own Correspondent, Tokyo**

ministers, to consider joint venture proposals, with the first meeting to be held in the northern capital, Pyongyang, next September. Subsequent

After two hours, the South Koreans agreed to consider the northern proposals and to hold the next round on June 20.

In talks between **Datuk Seri Mahathir and General Prem Tinsulanonda**, the Thai Prime Minister, it was agreed to increase the to countries joint efforts to combat heroin production and distribution.

### From Our Own Correspondent, Rome

A statement issued after a meeting of the executive said the Communists had suffered "a severe blow which requires from all the party a great effort of analysis and reflection".

Final figures in the voting for regional, provincial and local councils showed the Communists altogether losing 252 seats. Among the Communists there has been some isolated

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**Signor Natta:**



# Honduras leader's battle to survive threatens fledgling democracy

From Alan Tomlinson Tegucigalpa

The political brawl which has brought the fledgling democracy of Honduras to the brink of collapse in the past seven weeks is approaching a final trial of strength between the President and the growing number of opponents trying to force him to relinquish power.

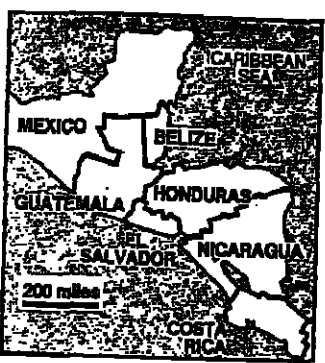
President Roberto Suazo Cordova, who initiated the crisis by manipulating the political system to impose his own puppet candidate as successor at the November general elections, has now also begun nominating his own men to replace congressmen on the ballot sheet.

Faithful Cabinet members have begun to resign their posts, as the constitution requires, to enable them to seek election as congressmen when campaigning opens officially on Friday.

The demands of American foreign policy in the region, which would embarrassingly be undermined by a coup in Honduras, have so far stood in the way of the Army simply removing President Suazo to fulfil his plans.

Resistance to his scheme from most members of the Honduras Congress has resulted in a slugging match between executive, legislative and judicial authorities. Congress efforts to replace the Supreme Court with non-Suazo appointees so that the President's men may be removed from the national electoral tribunal which carries out voting reforms have not succeeded.

The President wielded his veto, jailed the man appointed



by Congress to head the court, and asked the Army to exile leading congressional dissidents to Costa Rica.

At one point last month the plans were on the runway, until the Americans told the Army that in a democracy you can't go around removing congressmen either, a Western diplomat disclosed.

Trade unions, which have threatened a general strike next week unless there are electoral reforms to open the way for legitimate candidates, have been warned by Señor Suazo's Labour Minister that the strike will be declared illegal.

Since the President retains the support of the private business sector, strikers would face losing their jobs in a country where mounting problems include massive unemployment.

● **MANAGUA:** Nicaraguan troops killed rebels attacking the outskirts of the Atlantic port of Bluefields, according to the Defence Ministry, which gave no details of government casualties (Reuters reports). The repulsed rebels were part

of a large force disperses by troops in Matagalpa province. ● **PANAMA CITY:** Honduras has rejected a Nicaraguan proposal for an international commission to monitor their tense border, diplomats say (Reuters reports).

The Honduran deputy Foreign Minister, Señor Jorge Hernandez, said yesterday the country would agree to such a commission only when an overall regional peace pact was signed. He spoke of the Contadora group, which is seeking a solution to Central American conflicts.

Nicaragua's request had been backed by the Contadora members - Mexico, Panama, Venezuela and Colombia.

Honduras yesterday ordered the Washington-backed Contra rebels to abandon three bases near the border. Tegucigalpa sent troops there this month after a cross-border raid by Nicaraguan soldiers chasing Contras.

● **SAN JOSE:** A Costa Rican court yesterday ruled that it had enough evidence to try 14 foreigners, including two Britons, charged with possession of explosives and illicit association.

Nine are Nicaraguans and are said to be members of the American-backed right-wing opposition Nicaragua Democratic Force. The defendants were held in April at a ranch three miles from the Nicaraguan border.

Police have identified the Europeans as Mr Peter Gubbey and Mr John Davis, of Britain, and M Claude Chaffard of France.

## Nicaragua pays debts to prepare for IMF aid

From Christopher Thomas Washington

Nicaragua appears to be making exceptional efforts to gain international financial respectability, perhaps in readiness for a loan application to the International Monetary Fund. The Reagan Administration would be furious if the IMF helped the Sandinista Government.

Nicaragua is demonstrating a sudden and unexpected willingness to honour many of its debts, raising questions about where it is getting the money. The answer may lie, at least in part, in the economic agreement reached when President Daniel Ortega was in Moscow two weeks ago, details of which are not known.

Nicaragua's most striking gesture is an apparent willingness to negotiate terms for the resumption of repayments on loans from dozens of American private banks for the first time in at least two years. Nicaragua owes more than \$1 billion to 60 private banks, most of them American.

Señor Joaquín Cuadra, president of the Central Bank of Nicaragua, met representatives of most of the banks recently in Washington and New York. Senior Nicaraguan diplomats in Washington said he concluded the broad details of new repayment arrangements running until June 1986.

That has not been the only surprise. Nicaragua unexpectedly handed a cheque for \$2.7 million to the IMF on April 17. Nine days later it paid another \$4.8 million, clearing the debt entirely. Additionally, repayments on loans from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) are being kept assiduously up to date after a period of late payments. And urgent discussions are under way at the World Bank on resuming payments on a debt of \$19.4 million, which are six months in arrears.

By striving to get its economic house in order, Nicaragua has clearly embarked on a well-defined strategy to overcome America's trade embargo. Mr George Shultz, Secretary of State, said in a leaked letter to the Inter-American Development Bank on January 30: "Nicaragua is not creditworthy. It is seriously in arrears to the international financial institutions."

The US has blocked a \$58 million loan application by Nicaragua to the IDB for the past three years.



Attack aftermath: Against a background of burnt out homes, black ministers hold a prayer vigil.

## Black racial threat to avenge fortress attack

Philadelphia (Reuters) - A radical black group vowed yesterday to avenge a police attack on their headquarters on Monday in which 11 people were killed and many homes were destroyed by fire.

"Our fight is not over. The city can't stop us," said Mr Jerry Africa, a spokesman for the group, MOVE. "We never said we couldn't be hurt. We said we couldn't be stopped. The potential for violence isn't over."

After a gun battle with the groups, police dropped a bomb on the headquarters in an attempt to evict them. The blast started a fire that destroyed 60 other homes, leaving 240 people homeless.

As community leaders ex-

pressed outrage over the city's handling of the siege, the mayor, Mr Wilson Goode, said he also believed the radical, back-to-nature group would seek revenge.

Mr Goode, who said two further houses occupied by MOVE members were being watched, added the city was establishing two funds, one of \$5 million (£3.9 million) to rebuild the homes and another of \$2 million to maintain the homeless.

The city also faces two \$10 million lawsuits filed on behalf of residents.

A Pennsylvania state legislator called for the resignation of the city's Managing Director, Mr Rodney Brooks, who was in charge of the operation.

## Right and left say Kyprianou must go

Nicosia (AP) - Majority parties in the Cypriot Parliament yesterday renewed their demands for the resignation of President Spyros Kyprianou.

Separate declarations by the right-wing Democratic Rally (DYSY) and the Communist Akel said that the island's political crisis could be solved if Mr Kyprianou agreed to be bound by majority views in efforts to solve the Greek-Turkish problem. Each party contended a third of parliament votes.

A statement by Akel accused Mr Kyprianou of "ignoring the will of the people, with the sole objective of remaining in power."

Addressing a mass rally in Nicosia, the leader of the DYSY, Mr Glafkos Clerides, announced a campaign to force him to resign. "Today's rally marks the end of your patience and toleration toward the destructive and dangerous Kyprianou administration," he told protesters.

He would introduce legislation curbing the powers of the President and denying him the right to speak on the future of Cyprus on behalf of the Greek Cypriot community, he said.

The present crisis erupted in January, in the wake of the collapse of the latest initiative by the UN Secretary General, Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, to solve the problem.

Both DYSY and Akel blamed Mr Kyprianou for having rejected a peace plan submitted by Señor Pérez de Cuellar during a meeting he had arranged in New York between Mr Kyprianou and the Turkish Cypriot leader, Mr Rauf Denktaş.

Mr Kyprianou, leader of the small centrist Democratic Party which polled 18 per cent in the last parliamentary election, was elected president in 1983 following an electoral pact with Akel, which has since collapsed. He maintains that under the presidential system he is not answerable to Parliament. The issue has been referred to the island's Supreme Court.

Two days before the DYSY rally, Mr Kyprianou tried to defuse the crisis with a compromise proposal, agreeing that national policy should be set by the "national council" of party leaders, and that disagreements should go to the people in a referendum.

Both Akel and DYSY rejected his proposal, insisting that he should comply with the parliamentary vote on majority decisions.

## Gas blast in pit kills 10 and traps 52

Tokyo (AP) - Ten miners were killed and 52 trapped after a gas explosion ripped through a coal mine at Yubari, central Hokkaido yesterday.

Rescuers were trying to reach those in the shaft with food and extra masks while mine operators tried to blow clean air into the tunnels.

It was the third disaster at a Japanese coal mine in 16 months, and the second in three weeks.

## US technology for India

Delhi (Reuters) - India and America signed an agreement on the transfer of high technology to India, after delays over US demands for safeguards against military use and diversion to other countries. The agreement was finalized during a three-day visit by Mr Malcolm Baldrige, US Commerce Secretary, who spoke earlier of the Soviet Union's worldwide industrial espionage network. "If they can't buy it they'll steal it."

## Sickness delays Gandhi trial

Delhi - The Indira Gandhi murder trial, open to the press for the first time yesterday, was adjourned until Monday when two lawyers of one of the three accused Sikhs withdrew because of ill health. In New Orleans, U.S. federal magistrate refused to set bond for five Sikhs accused of plotting to kill an Indian government official visiting the city earlier this month.

## Lisbon's thrust at Unesco

Lisbon (AFP) - Portugal became the latest country to voice strong public criticism of Unesco declaring that the world body had wandered from its initial goals.

In a letter to its director-general, the Foreign Ministry criticizes the excessive concentration of technical and specialized personnel at headquarters rather than in the field and attempts to supervise the media.

## Swedish hope

Stockholm (Reuters) - Swedish trade union leaders and employers began fresh talks to try to end the 15-day-old civil servants pay dispute which has disrupted much of the country and crippled foreign trade.

## Spit wardens

Peking (AFP) - Peking residents will have to glance over their shoulder before they spit in public from Monday. The city is fielding 147,000 inspectors to help wipe out the habit, with a 50-fen (14p) fine and a lecture for offenders.

## Doping mix-up

Brisbane (AFP) - Massive legal claims for compensation may be filed by owners and trainers whose horses were wrongly disqualified for doping in Queensland after the disclosure that papers used to test urine samples contained caffeine and contaminated the swabs.

## Walesa refusal

Warsaw (Reuters) - Solidarity leader Mr Lech Walesa refused to give police tape recordings of a talk he had with a convicted murderer who alleged there was a plot to kill him. Police have charged the man, Jozef Szczepanski, with having contact with an illegal organization.

## Freedom walk

Mr Steven Bowes, a 34-year-old British store foreman captured by UNITA terrorists at a diamond mining region in Angola, is to be released when his 500-mile trek on foot ends at Jamba, the UNITA headquarters. The Foreign Office was told yesterday. He is expected there next month.

## Dream obeyed

Bangkok (AP) - a West German couple has returned a ceramic tile to the famous War Arun Buddhist temple here after being told in recurring dreams to send back the ornament, the religious affairs department said.

## Our longest running season

The starter's gun hasn't sounded yet, but we know we have a winner.

After all, the cast consists of the finest runners, jumpers, vaulters, and throwers in international athletics—many of them world-record holders and medalists at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics.

And for the first time, these athletes will be competing against each other over a 16-meet season that runs from 25 May in San Jose, California, to 7 September in Rome, Italy.

Sponsored by Mobil and organized by the International Amateur Athletic Federation, the IAAF Mobil Grand Prix is a new concept in athletics.

In the past, though sports fans dreamt of great confrontations, the best athletes rarely met each other when the chips were down. Then everything rode on one meet and too often chance victimized talent. Chance—and politics.

But this season, the athletes will be put to the truest test of excellence: consistency at the highest levels of competition.

Grand Prix points are awarded to athletes on the basis of their performances and times. World records gain extra points. At the conclusion of the season, overall Grand Prix titles will be awarded to the outstanding male and female athletes and to the outstanding performers in each event.

It's a programme that will help sustain interest in athletics—among athletes and among fans. Which is one good reason why Mobil is supporting our longest running season.



Here's the 1985 IAAF Mobil Grand Prix schedule:

Bruce Jenner's Bud Light Classic	San Jose, California	25 May
The Prefontaine Classic	Eugene, Oregon	1 June
Zharmensky Memorial	Moscow	6 June
Rosovsky Memorial	Prague	22 June
De-Galan	Stockholm	2 July
World Games	Helsinki	4 July
Nikaia	Nice	16 July
Peugeot Talbot Games	London	19 July
Clarton Bisset Games	Oslo	27 July
JAC	London	2 August
Budapest Grand Prix	Budapest	4 August
Weltklasse	Zurich	21 August
ISTAF	West Berlin	23 August
Weltklasse	Cologne	28 August
Ivo Van Damme Memorial	Brussels	30 August
IAAF Mobil Grand Prix Final	Rome	7 September

## Sport safety promise for Europe

From Martha de la Cal Lisbon

Crowd safety and crowd violence have dominated this week's informal talks in Lisbon at the Council of Europe meeting of sports ministers.

At the end of the two-day session yesterday, the delegates from the 21 Council of Europe member states, and from Finland and the Vatican conveyed their sympathy to the Bradford fire victims' families and said the tragedy had shamed not only them "but the international community as a whole".

The delegates would "work for improved crowd safety and crowd control while ensuring that measures adopted reconciled public safety with public order".

They called on the Council of Europe to prepare a survey of safety precautions in sports facilities, and asked the organization to review and strengthen measures and guidelines for dealing with spectator violence.

It was noted that widely varying local conditions at sports grounds and stadia made it difficult to generalize on measures against violence.

Mr J. P. van der Reijden, the Dutch Secretary of state for Sport, emphasized the importance of bilateral co-operation in the case of international football matches.

Bilateral contacts with Britain were excellent and had helped limit violence in the recent Everton-Rapid Vienna match at Rotterdam.

The decision to allow fans to stay open in the stadium after the match had been aimed at providing those spectators who were waiting for early-morning ships home with somewhere to go, he said.

## Moscow cooling to Reagan summit

From Richard Owen, Moscow

As Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, returned home from the Vienna talks yesterday, the chief Soviet government spokesman compared American space weapons research to the atomic bomb programme during the Second World War, and said "nothing new" had emerged from Mr Gromyko's discussions with Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State.

Mr Vladimir Lomeiko, who had accompanied Mr Gromyko to Vienna, said both Russia and America had a "positive approach" to the idea of a summit meeting between Mr Gorbachev and President Reagan, but no date or venue had been fixed. Mr Lomeiko said he knew nothing about a possible visit to New York by Mr Gorbachev in September for the UN General Assembly.

Diplomats said that while still favouring Soviet-American dialogue "at a high level", Moscow appeared to be growing cooler to Mr Reagan's summit proposal, and was evidently waiting for signs of progress at the Geneva talks.

## Gorbachev makes impact

From Our Own Correspondent, Moscow

At the end of Mr Mikhail Gorbachev's three-day tour of Leningrad to "meet the people", Soviet television broke with recent Khrushchev practice and showed film of the Soviet leader in animated conversation with ordinary Russians.

At the start of the Leningrad walkabout, which included visits to factories and colleges, only still photographs had been shown. Officials said Mr Gorbachev had at several points abandoned the official programme and insisted on plunging into local crowds, to the

## Rebels step up campaign with Lima bomb wave

Lima (Reuters) - Bomb explosions in Lima this week included one outside the United States ambassador's residence, and three home-made bombs were defused in the grounds of the Chinese embassy.

Police blamed the bombings on Maoist guerrillas of the Sendero Luminoso, who have stepped up their violent campaign against the Peruvian Government, particularly in Lima.

Two policemen died in bomb attacks on Wednesday, and three were wounded in a machine-gun and dynamite

## Expelled Ghanaians face uncertain homecoming

Accra, Ghana (NYT) - Thousands of Ghanaians expelled from Nigeria are coming home to a country that is of two minds about their return.

On the one hand, many Ghanaians who stayed resent the 300,000 compatriots who took their quest for riches elsewhere, as their country struggled towards economic recovery. But their disdain has been tempered by what they consider the inhumane treatment the illegal workers have received at the hands of the Nigerian Government.

In 1983, when Nigeria forced up to two million illegal

workers to leave the country, Ghana eased the way for its returning countrymen by waiving customs regulations, paying expenses and sending their compatriots home to welcoming villages.

But this time Ghana has made those returning pay duty on items they bring in. If they do not pay within 15 days, their goods are auctioned.

● **SHOOTING CLAIM:** A returning Ghanaian saw about 15 of his compatriots shot dead by Nigerian border guards and more than 100 wounded when they tried to cross the closed frontier into Benin.





# THE ARTS

## Radio

### Are you one of us?

After I left the employment of Mr. or as he then preferred to be called, Captain Robert Maxwell (an event of which he may not have been too keenly aware), I threw in my lot with a company owned and run by an Australian-born Greek who saw it as his mission to set an example to the rest of British industry both in innovation and the effective development of ideas. He was fuelled by a heady brew of evangelical zeal which the company liked to find in its recruits and then took steps to intensify. In short it displayed what I now recognize as some of the characteristics of a cult and I am particularly reminded of it because I am beginning to recognize the same thing in the picture emerging from *The Thatcher Phenomenon* (Radio 4, Sundays, repeating Mondays, producer, Anne Sloman).

Perhaps this explains why I am finding this latest of Mrs Sloman's political explorations the most absorbing of them all to date, although there is plainly a particular fascination in its subject to which I am probably as open as the innumerable contributors, who have been talking to its compiler and presenter, Hugo Young. On supporters and opponents alike, Margaret Thatcher makes an impact which none so far has been able to dismiss.

The first of these six programmes (May 5) examined the lady's background, character and intellect. Her Oxford mentors found her only moderately impressive to Dame Janet Vaughan she was "not an interesting person, except as a Conservative". To Professor Dorothy Hodgkin she was a second class chemist. There seemed to be few hidden depths and, as is now notorious, not much sense of humour.

My former managing director, I remember, was not famous for a sense of humour either and it made him, and no

doubt makes the Prime Minister, sometimes most uncomfortable to deal with. And then, as her former Permanent Secretary at the Department of Education reported, she displayed what has to be for any Englishman some most unsettling behaviour. On her first day in the Department she handed him a list of 18 items to be done that day!

By this means, of course, she touched on the conditioned responses: set up by years of upbringing, schooling and authority. The fact that she is a woman clearly does the same in other ways and this was a theme of the second programme (May 12). Here too we learned how important loyalty has become: "Is he one of us?" is a vital question to be asked about any aspiring party member. Mr Julian Critchley under the eye of his great leader could not be quite certain that he was.

By the end of the first short two-hourer that went to make up Martin Crimp's *Three Attempted Acts* (Radio 3, May 15; director, John Tydemann) I was both fascinated and slightly appalled. A lady (Phyllida Law) calls on a gentleman (Alan McCowen) to view one of those reward and punishment experiments involving press bars, food dispensers and electric shocks conducted to modify the behaviour of laboratory rats.

As the viewing proceeds, it becomes unpleasantly obvious that this particular experiment is being conducted on a subnormal human being. But the watchers are much more concerned with their discussion of the exquisite pain induced by a piece of Mozart than by the victim's agony and outrage. The succeeding two plays pursued the same theme of pain, as quite unreal to those who do not suffer it, but Mr Crimp had given us the most powerful treatment in the first.

David Wade

### Patriotic to a fault

Henry V  
Barbican

Whereas in France unreasoned patriotism is known as chauvinism, here we call it loyalty to the Crown. Nowhere does this instinct find more emotive expression than in *Henry V*. It is very much the Matter of England.

Adrian Noble's production, transferred from its vaulted run at Stratford, gives a straight reading of the piece as pageant, with no attempt at sneaky subtexts. The opening scene where the Archbishop of Canterbury elucidates the Salic Law in order to justify the new king's territorial ambitions gives no hint of a put-up job, and besides this Henry shows no sign of being smart enough for such a play.

So much for the political dimension. In artistic terms, there is an immediate and gross discrepancy between the character of the Chorus as played here, and the profusion of technical effects for which his speech is designed to substitute. Ian McDiarmid has a beautifully subtle voice and his bodily expressiveness verges on that of a mime artist, but his camp, would-be winsome delivery wreathes the lines into grotesque distortions, as if he were desperate to wring significance from what is already pellucidly clear in the text.

Even the Barbican may not be able to hold the vasty fields of France, but Bob Crowley's design and Robert Bryan's lighting conspire to produce some grandiose and daring effects. The walls of Harfleur are a massive bronze screen complete with scaling ladders, while the French cavalry at Agincourt descend from the heavens on a gleaming, pennant



Once more unto the breach: Kenneth Branagh

hung gentry which beams down on the stage with space-shed lights. There is also a full scale and prolonged rainstorm under which the dispirited English army huddle wrapped in tarpaulins, and the battle scenes are at times rendered impenetrable by the mountains of mist which steam up from grilles set into the stage.

Kenneth Branagh's Henry by no means suffers from this competition. The only way to play a part devoid of psychological development is to play it consistently and to the hilt, and his is sufficiently robust and commanding a presence to hold our interest, in which he is

helped by a curious facial resemblance to James Cagney. As for his compassion, we do not believe him when he promises to weep for Scroop, but he almost does weep while watching Bardolph strangle to death: he saves his real tears for the news of victory. Neither a prig nor a tyrant, he is at his best in the love scene with the angelic Cecile Paoli. Sion Probert's Fuellen makes a prancing braggadocio and Nicholas Woodeson's Dauphin a nervy, intense, interperate little wind-up toy soldier with excellent comic timing.

Martin Cropper

## Theatre

### The London Cuckolds Leicester Haymarket

After packing London theatres for a century, Edward Ravenscroft's comedy fell victim to genteel taste (headed by "some squeamish females of renown") in the 1780s; and was not seen again until Stuart Burge's 1979 revival at the Royal Court.

Mr Burge has now returned to the piece in collaboration with John Byrne who supplies an ingenious interior/exterior design and an adaptation from which the *London Cuckolds* emerges as a model of symmetrical plotting and exemplary comic justice - with lechers and husbands all chained together on a contraband liquor charge "like monkeys on a string".

It is not surprising that Ravenscroft never made it into the official anthologies of Restoration drama, as he has no pretensions whatever to literary quality. There are no epigrams, artful antitheses or ping-pong

debates on the sex war. He is wholly concerned with making things happen. The comic mainspring is supplied by two contrasted rakes: Townly, a devoted drinker who happens always to score with women; and Rumble, an obsessive philanderer who has never achieved a single seduction.

What follows is a demonstration of Zen sexuality, with Townly accidentally picking up the fruits of Rumble's conquests, while Rumble himself is left hanging from ivy-clad drainpipes, covering in cupboards, and stuck in the cellar window from which he finally escapes only after being doused with chamber pots, robbed, and shot in the rump.

Symmetry also applies to the wedded prey: two frail young wives married to a pair of superannuated older men whose jealous concern for their sexual property only slightly outweighs their zeal in protecting a consignment of contraband rum from the excise men.

If this is beginning to sound as mechanical as an eighteenth-

century version of *No Sex Please We're British*, Ravenscroft has the added merit of springing unexpected flashes of comic invention without disrupting his main scheme: such as the appearance of a self-styled magician who passes off a love feast and a hidden lover as a supernatural trick.

Barry Stanton, a survivor of the Royal Court version, returns fruitfully to the role of the more glib of the two older men: dispensing gentlemanly oaths like "pish" with volcanic emphasis, and finally coddled into insensibility while disguised as his wife. He is expertly partnered by Donald Gee in the dust of marital complacency.

Their scenes are played at a leisurely tempo. The rest of the show goes like lightning, led by Michael Moloney's Rumble, a serious professional rake, carefully equipping himself for the day's conquests in front of a full length mirror before venturing on the town for another cycle of unmixed disaster.

Irving Wardle

## Cannes Film Festival

In his best films, *Alexandria... Why?* and *An Egyptian Story*, the Egyptian director Youssef Chahine recreates, with an ebullience all his own, Egyptian history as he has witnessed it in his 59 years.

With Adlen Bonaparte he just falls short of giving the same immediacy and vitality to a more remote period. Ambition defeats him: his two-hour film is so overcrowded with incident and information that at times it defies comprehension.

Napoleon's Egyptian campaign was a singular piece of history. Apart from its military audacity, it comprehended a massive scientific expedition, including mathematicians, physicists, astronomers, artists, architects, chemists, engineers and printers.

Chahine's ambition was to characterize the strange and lasting relationship between

Egypt and France: "The image of the French among Egyptians is that of lovers and not oppressors. A mixture of science and affectionate curiosity inseminated Egypt, and modern Egypt was born". The relationship is epitomized in the film by the mutual fascination of a young Egyptian poet and Napoleon's peg-leg savant, Louis Caffarelli du Faga.

The confusion of the film is compensated for (but perhaps not enough for commercial viability in this country) with spectacular mise-en-scene, and fine performances, including Patrice Chereau as an icily fanatic Bonaparte, Michel Piccoli as Caffarelli, and an impressive Egyptian cast.

It is a discouraging sign of the times that two of the films in competition in Cannes are cobbled together out of television mini-series. Mario Mon-

celli's new adaptation of Pirandello's *The Late Mathias Paza* is made watchable by the soap-opera efficiency of its script and the world-weary performance of Marcello Mastroianni.

Ted Kotcheff's *Joshua Then and Now*, adapted by Mordecai Richler from his own novel, and also made as a television series, is a kind of Canadian *Room at the Top*. James Woods plays a young Jew from the wrong side of the tracks who marries into the upper-class goy society which at once repels and attracts him. Most of the performances, including an irritatingly mannered Woods, look pretty bad on the screen, but there are fleeting compensation in Alan Arkin's characterization of the hero's larcenous father, with his original reinterpretations of both Old and New Testaments.

David Robinson

## Television

### Behind the facade

No doubt they had similar problems with the pyramids ("Young Pharaoh lashes out at meaningless stone mounds"), but the controversy over a proposed new office block in the City seems a trifle out of proportion to its 290 feet.

In a more journalistic edition than usual, *Omnibus* (BBC1) gave a jaunty re-enactment of the public enquiry into Mansion House Square, assembling those for and against the project as well as the urbane developer himself, Mr Peter Palumbo.

Since Eton and his schoolboy "push" for Mies van der Rohe, Mr Palumbo has dreamed of constructing a building by this German architect in the centre of London. According to Richard Rogers, architect of the Pompidou Centre, Palumbo is "a patron not a developer".

Producer Anna Benson Gylys was more sympathetic in tone to the modernists than their detractors, who were led by the piping secretary to the Victorian Society, Jennifer Freeman. We saw her on the site with a crowd of people almost as old as the Victorian buildings scheduled for demolition - buildings that "no one ever noticed before" as Sir John Summerson, an eminent trendy, observed.

Caught in the middle was the City Corporation, a kind of bureaucratic push-me-pull-you which having given a tentative

go-ahead in 1968 has now had second thoughts. The programme allowed the building at the centre of all this to become strangely unimportant, almost, ironically, lost from sight, but it did at least enliven the tedious issues behind its glass and steel facade.

Palumbo would have had no such trouble in Mexico City, a capital ruined by architects and planners trained in Europe. The *World About Us* (BBC2) took a disappointingly tame look at the world's largest city through three of its 17 million inhabitants. There was definitely a faulty connection between the programme's subdued facts and gloomy statistics and the lives of the people it chose: the poor boy who wished to be a boxer was happy and healthy; the greyhound, rich beauty who designed clothes for New York had, she said, sleepless nights worrying about how to keep people happy; and the architect/planner gave us a globotious commentary about how the needs of his people did not correspond with the city he had helped build for them. The result gave neither the impression of what life was like in this city, nor a sense that the implications of statistics so lightly bandied had been fully understood.

Nicholas Shakespeare

## Concert

### Parikian-Milne Fleming Trio Wigmore Hall

The bus station at Bergamo sounds an unlikely place for the Muse to descend, but Hugh Wood insists that was where he first had the idea which became the germinal theme of his *Piano Trio*, Op 24. The work was the centrepiece of the first London concert last night since Hamish Milne replaced Bernard Roberts as the pianist, with Manon Parikian and Amariyllis Fleming in a trio for whom the music was written and first performed at the 1984 Brighton Festival.

It bears the hallmarks of the composer's fastidious craftsmanship in its careful balance between the strings and the keyboard, as well as in solo writing for each instrument in turn which helps to unravel and clarify the sometimes close harmonic texture of the part writing. At first, the piano seems to generate the energy which propels the more lyrical thoughts of violin and cello, but in a serene slow movement and skittish rondo the motive spirit is more evenly distributed.

The work is a welcome addition of contemporary character to form which has posed successive challenges since Mozart, whose C major Trio (K548) began the programme with the pianist at the driving seat to start with. The romantic feeling which the string players brought to the lovely *Andante cantabile* movement, however, was renewed with a suitably richer dynamic charge in the emotional eloquence they sustained in Dvořák's darkly beautiful F minor Trio, Op 65.

The performance here was often a model of tripartite association between players who constitute an ensemble already of distinction and potentially of more than that. In the light and shade of their expressive character, the rhythmic impetus and vivacious phrasing, each seems to generate in the others not just a lively response but an imaginative approach to all that makes a concerted achievement rewarding.

Noel Goodwin

INVEST IN  
**THEATRE**  
NEW WEST END BES  
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See page 27

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## SPORTING DIARY

Simon Barnes

### Cross current

Vincent's, the elite Oxford sporting club that includes two former British prime ministers and two kings among its members, has been accused of sexism. Peter Kanowski, an Australian Rhodes scholar and Oxford cross-country captain, has objected to the fact that blues committee meetings are held at the club, which women cannot join. He has declared that the cross country faction will not attend any more blues committee meetings or any other official functions at Vincent's until the policy is changed, and has asked his colleagues to resign from the club if they are members.

Vincent's is a private club, and has no proposal for a policy change. The matter could be raised at the next meeting, in a fortnight, but the committee would almost certainly reject it, even though the last all-male college will admit women next year.

The entire membership of Vincent's might be asked to vote on the issue. They include Lords Stockton and Home, the ex-PMs, and Christopher Chataway, Imran Khan and Lord Oakley.

**Lying second**  
St Anne's College, Oxford, claimed that its recent skirmish along the Thames was the first time that men and women had ever raced against each other in eight. Not so, declares Sylvia Richardson. She rowed for Bedford College against Downing College men in the spring of 1940.

**Gamesmanship**  
Equipping a major expedition is a matter for careful planning, and people have put much thought into the provisions for the England football team's summer assault on the peaks of Mexico. The vital equipment to be carried includes a dashboard and darts, chess for the thoughtful, cricket bats and stumps, tennis kit, golf clubs and dominoes. But the carpet bowls, as introduced by the disgraced former England manager, Don Revie, are to be left behind.

**Jay's work**  
Richard Crane, who thinks that marathons are for cissies lacking all serious qualities of endurance, is off chasing a new goal today. Crane, who has run the entire Himalayas (which isn't bad going) and bicycled Mount Kilimanjaro (up, and down) is now attempting the Bob Graham Round, in aid, as ever, of Intermediate Technology. This is an attempt to scale 42 Lakeland peaks over 72 miles of ludicrously difficult going within 24 hours. The challenge was first thrown down in 1932, and only 323 people have been up to it, so far. Half of those foolish enough to try have failed.

**Pounding the turf**  
It will be a weighty matter when Lester Piggott takes on John Francome, the almost equally acclaimed horseman, over 1 mile 6 furlongs on the flat at Warwick at 8.15 tonight. The much race, to be run in the gloaming, has Francome riding at 10st 10lb and Piggott riding at 10st 12lb, which will mean he must carry 34 pounds in dead-weight. Francome has been spending time since his retirement writing an autobiography, without the aid of a ghost - an almost unique achievement by a contemporary sportsman.

**Blazing row**  
Dorling-born footballer Mark Strukelj, who plays in midfield for Pisa football, is in the middle of a row of grand opera proportions. He claims that the Pisa vice-chairman, Adolfo Antonetti, slapped him across the face at an airport because Strukelj was not wearing a club blazer. The dispute now involves the police, the players' union and the Italian Football Federation's investigation office. Last season Antonetti's father, Romeo, the club president, was suspended for allegedly threatening his players.



# Green belt that blocks the north

by Roger Humber

Peter Walker, the government minister, spelt out a familiar truism earlier this month: that "only economic growth will create job opportunities, pay for rising living standards, and enable us to tackle our social problems". But in some areas of the country growth is regarded as a sin, not a necessity.

Restraints on growth in the south-east have been in place, in the shape of the London green belt and office development controls, since the Second World War. What is new is the idea that planning restrictions on homes, jobs and investment in the south will somehow automatically redirect money and enterprise to the north, particularly to the inner areas of the conurbations. This philanthropic concept was recently supported in an Early Day Motion on regional planning by over 80 Conservative MPs (mostly from the south-east).

In fact it is a convenient fiction, giving respectability to the understandable but unacceptable aspirations of the comfortably off shires to continue to enjoy their privileges, their pleasant views and their apparatus of county council "structure plans".

Rejection of growth can be seen in the lobbying against London's third airport, in the attempts to slow down development of hi-tech industries in places such as Cambridge and in the belief that the M25 and other motorways in the south can be used merely to channel growth elsewhere, rather than being used as the focal point for economic development.

Much of this restraint results from the desire of local politicians to jump on the "green bandwagon", but since the new industries are not largely housed in the "dark satanic mills" of the 19th century, it would be wrong to exaggerate their environmental impact. Indeed, much of the land being so vigorously defended in the "green belts" of the south-east is not made up of beautiful green fields, but of scruffy, semi-derelict land serving no useful function.

But the cost of defending this land is continued unemployment, and the proposition upon which restraint is justified - the direct benefit to the north of self-imposed controls in the south - is false; such policies are more likely to damage national economic prospects and push the north further into the decline from which it has suffered for the last 40 years, or more.

Consider some examples. A new technology employer will either locate in the area of its choice within the UK or, if denied this choice, will go elsewhere - frequently to Western Europe's "golden triangle".

Next, consider a small firm of the kind upon which this Government places such reliance. Often such firms are started by successful executives in larger, established, companies who identify a market for a new product or service. They will only locate

within the local economy that has spawned the opportunities they have seen.

Finally, there is the human side of the equation. Will people from the south go north, without the prospect of a job, in search of the home they cannot afford to buy because not enough new homes are built? And what of the plight of the skilled worker prepared to move from the north to find work, but faced with vast cost differences in housing?

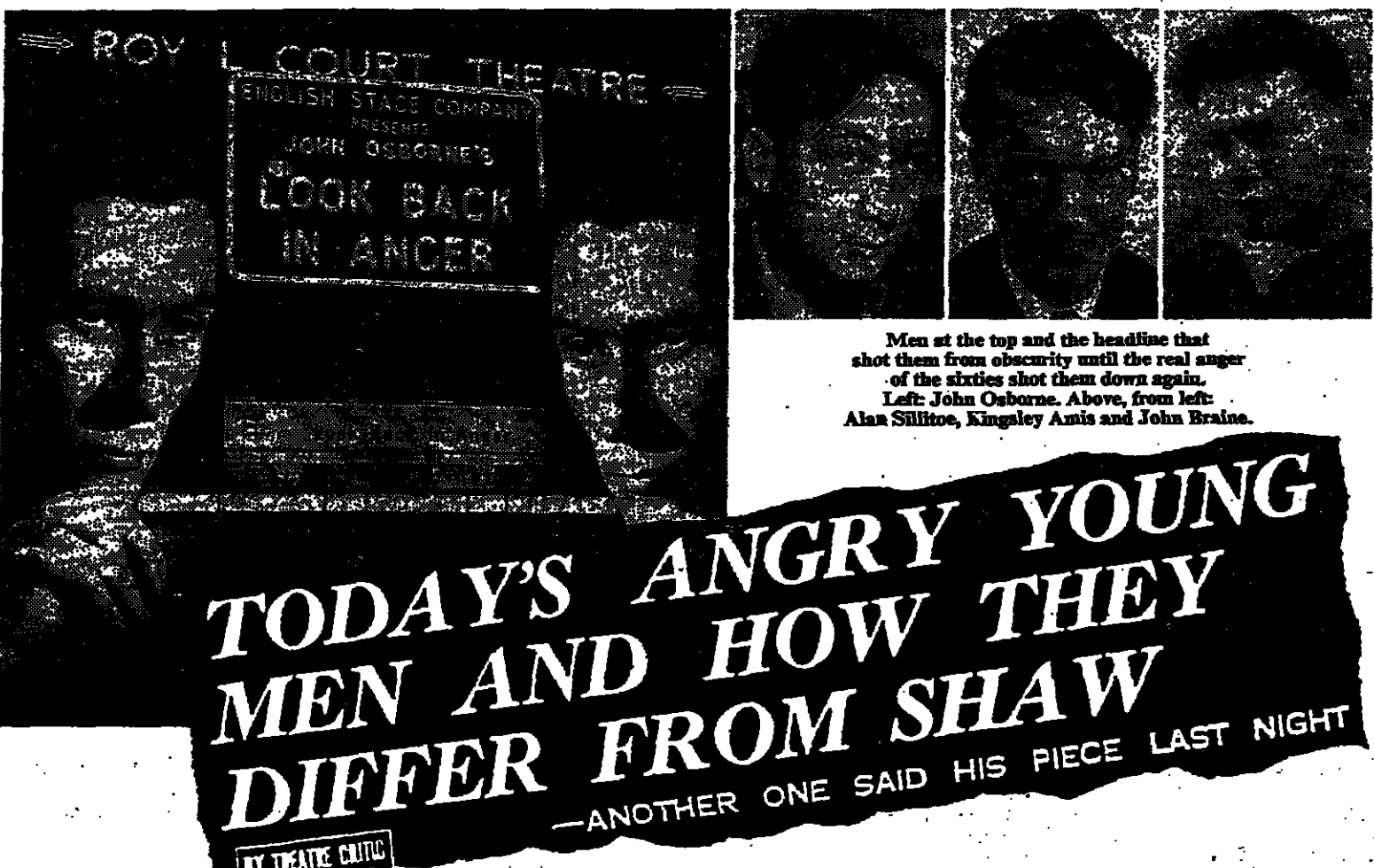
What the north needs is to be part of a wealth-creating economy, wherever that wealth is created. The investment needed to clear away the debris of a post-industrial age, to pay for the retraining of its workers, and to create new environments, can only be provided by an Exchequer that is reaping the benefits of a growing tax base.

This must be fuelled initially in the south-east, and if that growth can attain sufficient momentum, it will inevitably spin-off northwards. The prospect for the north in an economy that is failing to grow at its full potential is dismal. It is the role of the south to create the wealth of the 21st century, just as the north created national wealth in the 19th century.

Encouraging growth in the south does not mean writing off the north. It means giving the north policies that will actually help, and calling the bluff of those who hold out false hopes.

The author is director of the House-Builder's Federation.

### Harry Ritchie charts the invention of a literary generation



Men at the top and the headline that shot them from obscurity until the real anger of the sixties shot them down again. Left: John Osborne. Above, from left: Alan Sillitoe, Kingsley Amis and John Braine.

## The anger that never was

Whatever happened to the Angry Young Men - all those 1950s new writers who marched down from the provinces to storm the barricades of literary London: John Osborne, John Braine, Kingsley Amis, Alan Sillitoe? At the time it seemed that the welfare state had spawned a whole generation of literary rebels brandishing kitchen-sink plays and social protest novels. No one was quite sure what they were angry about - the class system, perhaps, Suez, or the H-bomb - but they were clearly angry about something.

Then suddenly it was all over. How quickly the AYM became comfortably middle-aged, no longer punchy but paunchy. Osborne cursed the 1960s, Braine declared his support for the Americans in Vietnam, Amis turned and baited the trendy lefties. The Angries were even accused by *Pravda* of selling out. Was their protest just a passing phase of callow youth, like acne, easily remedied by maturity and prosperity?

In fact the Angry Young Men were never really angry in the first place. Of course Jimmy Porter in Osborne's *Look Back in Anger* was perpetually enraged - by upper-class manners, Sunday newspapers, women, church bells - but his verbal assaults were so indiscriminate that they reveal much more about his neuroses than his social views. In *Room at the Top* Braine was concerned with price tags, not politics; his hero, Joe Lampton, clambered up the class ladder quite unencumbered by a social conscience. Amis admitted that he voted Labour, but only in apathetic preference to "the other crowd".

Likely to the others, Amis tried repeatedly to unpeel the label. "I hate all that spokesman stuff," he complained, "all that social drivel." Only Alan Sillitoe would live up to the radical reputation which, ironically, he did not gain until after the film *Saturday Night and Sunday Morning* was released in 1960. The "anger" of the 1950s was simply a successful and entirely misleading publicity gimmick.

For the best part of a decade the term would have aroused only hollow laughter. Young writers like Amis, whose first novel, *Lucky Jim*, was published in 1954, were constantly accused of lacking spirit. The old guard of the literary establishment - gentlemen-of-letters such as Philip Toynbee and Cyril Connolly - regarded the new authors as a sorry bunch, a group as drab and uninspiring as its title - "the Movement".

May 1956 saw the arrival of John Osborne. Today he is unhesitatingly credited for the sudden literary revival, but *Look Back in Anger* opened at the Royal Court Theatre to distinctly lukewarm reviews. Osborne was merely "promising", his box-office receipts were flat. Until then Osborne's closest brush with success had been as an actor on children's television, a career highlight which *Look Back in Anger* first seemed unlikely to replace. The play was due to close after three days and continued only after Kenneth Tynan's praise in *The Observer*.

While Osborne was making such a precarious start another young unknown was heralded as a genius. Colin Wilson enjoyed astonishing acclaim when his first book, *The Outsider*, was published on May 28. Its bizarre concoction of philosophy, religion and literary criticism about the nature of genius and the meaning of life, packed with quotes and half-baked ideas, was hardly the stuff of publishing success. But eulogies from Connolly and Tynan made the 24-year-old Wilson famous overnight.

He turned out to be a real outsider himself, so dedicated to his art that he had slept rough on Hampstead Heath to save money while writing his book. Now he was lionized by

gossip columnists and reviewers alike and *The Outsider* was a bestseller.

At the end of June *Look Back in Anger* was still failing to break even. The theatre's press officer, George Fearon, was looking for a method to sell a play which he loathed, and in desperation he decided to market the author instead. From now on Osborne was to be promoted as an "angry young man".

Inspired by Osborne's new reputation and Wilson's reception, the journalist Dan Faron wrote a couple of articles on young writers for the *Daily Mail* in July. Drafting in Kingsley Amis and an 18-year-old playwright, Michael Hastings, Faron announced that literature's "postwar generation" had finally arrived. The *Daily Express* responded with a rival feature by John Barber who recalled George Fearon's catchphrase and described the same four writers, for no particular reason, as the "Angry Young Men".

The group then attracted extraordinary media interest, with articles appearing in the popular press and the upmarket magazines. In August Colin Wilson was interviewed on ITV. Both television channels screened *Look Back in Anger* in the autumn. Wilson was compared with Elvis Presley, John Osborne with Liberace and Yul Brynner. Fortune accompanied their fame. Wilson received £20,000 in his first year as a writer and Osborne was said to be earning £1,000 a week.

During the stampede into print, journalists confused the lives of characters and authors. The picture became even more blurred after *Room at the Top* appeared in March 1957 when both John Braine and Joe Lampton were enlisted in the

AYM ranks. Braine was interviewed on *Panorama*, his novel was serialized in the *Daily Express*, and the film rights were snapped up.

However, by the time of Braine's debut the publicity was beginning to turn sour, especially for Colin Wilson. The worst of many scandals surrounding Wilson concerned allegedly pornographic diaries which had goaded his girlfriend's father to attempt a horsewhipping.

Fleet Street's literary craze had increasingly preposterous results in 1957 as reporters tried to discover younger and younger authors, such as the 10-year-old French poet Minou Drouet and the home-grown collection of "Angry Tinkies".

This was hardly the kind of revival the old guard had hoped for. The reaction against the young writers culminated when the AYM anthology, *Declaration*, was published in October 1957. Not surprisingly it turned out to be a very damp squib and critics showed little mercy, especially towards Colin Wilson. His second book, *Religion and the Rebel*, which appeared in October, was also rubbish. *Time* magazine summed up the dramatic turnaround in Wilson's career: "Eghead, scrambled".

When signs of real social protest emerged, with the rise of the New Left and the founding of CND in 1958, the Angries had been discredited as products of media hype. Was there anything at all in the label? Kingsley Amis pinpoints one reason for the group's reputation of boldness. Until the 1950s English letters seemed to be the "preserve of the public-school upper classes"; the new writers were all more or less lower-class. This one feature loomed so large that all the differences between them were ignored. Protest was inferred and then taken for granted. These days Amis looks back on anger without too much concern. "It put five hundred dollars on my American advance."

The author is a member of Lincoln College, Oxford.

## After Tanaka, who will have the last word?

Tokyo Photographers perch precariously on 10ft ladders outside a suburban Tokyo mansion waiting to photograph the end of an era. Inside, Kakuei Tanaka, the "kingmaker", struggles to regain his full powers of speech in defence of his crown as Japan's most powerful postwar politician. The first photographer to shoot a picture of him will confirm what many politicians already suspect: Tanaka will never return to full-time politics.

No one apart from family, doctors and close associates, has seen him since his stroke in February but, in the arcane world of Tokyo politics, reality seeps through to the layman by osmosis. Tanaka apparently has only limited ability either to move or to speak and has little energy for reading or even

watching television - a bitter plight for a man who built his political career through sheer energy, charm and charismatic speaking style.

Tanaka's residual effect on Japanese politics, even now he is ill, can scarcely be underrated: no one will be able to repeat the extraordinary Tanaka era. But there are plenty of politicians ready to exploit his rich political legacy, not least his protégé, the Prime Minister, Yasuhiro Nakasone.

Nakasone appears to have given up hope of getting an unusual third term of office when his present term ends in the autumn of next year, but he plainly wants to substitute it with an elder statesman's role more substantial than that of previous prime ministers. Next year's economic summit in Tokyo should provide an ideal vehicle.

Whatever Nakasone's foreign policy achievements no leading politician will be able to match Tanaka's influence on the bureaucracy, which enabled him to control even the application of individual laws in his heyday.

It is not yet clear who might succeed Tanaka as head of his faction, though his loyal lieutenant, Susumu Nakai, vice-president of the Liberal Democratic Party, is making a play for the role and a spell as prime minister along the way.

Before Tanaka's illness there were already signs of restiveness among the leading members of his faction, anxious for a chance at the premiership. Now the jostling for position has begun in earnest.

The Finance Minister, Noboru Takeshita, an early front-runner, is

being challenged for support of the majority of the 120-strong Tanaka faction by Nakai. Nakai has issued 10,000 invitations to a reception next month which appears to be the launching pad from which he hopes to soar to the leadership of the party and the prime ministership in the autumn of 1986.

Nikai made a brief challenge to Nakasone last year and the struggle between him and Takeshita will grow fiercer since it is not thought that Tanaka made his views known before he fell ill.

That alone must be a powerful incentive to Tanaka to regain sufficient powers of speech to round off his remarkable political career.

David Watts

Woodrow Wyatt

## How Whitehall sells Britain short

We never had a chance of getting the £525 million tender to build the second Bosphorus Bridge in Turkey with its motorways and approach roads. The Japanese were £100 million below in price. For the bridge itself, however, the British were some 3 per cent cheaper than the Japanese.

What, if the Turks had been willing to separate the package? We would not have got it anyway, and there should be no surprise about that. It is the story of the last 30 years.

The Japanese offered far better financial terms at the start irrespective of price advantage. The British Government does not believe in such aggressive salesmanship. When negotiations near completion it may try to match terms offered by others. By then it is usually too late for the British firms, from whom the initiative has probably passed.

Increasingly competitor countries win export orders from us through superior diplomatic skills and financial inducements to foreign governments. That is one reason why our share of world trade in manufactured goods dropped from 9.7 per cent in 1980 to 7.9 per cent in 1983.

We are children in the game of government backing for big deals. In 1983 India awarded contracts for large telephone exchanges. France, Germany and the UK (offering Sagem) were on the shortlist. France won by offering special facilities for low-cost loans and unorthodox arrangements on the side such as providing spares for nuclear reactors.

In this communications technology France now has a captive customer. India will continue to buy French to develop its initial system. France is trying to repeat this success in the same field in China with £150 million, part in easy-term loans, and over 30 per cent in outright grants. The Treasury thinks such behaviour is a foolish waste of public money.

In 1983 our aid programme was \$1,605 million. Forty-six per cent of that aid did not have to be spent with British suppliers. The remainder went mostly in 100 per cent grants to foreign governments. Japan's aid programme was \$3,761 million, of which only 36 per cent could be spent with non-Japanese suppliers. West Germany's total was \$3,176 million, of which 34 per cent could be spent other than with German suppliers. France's programme was \$3,815 million, of which only 18 per cent could be spent on non-French companies.

That is not the end of it. The last three countries mentioned do not dish out their bilateral aid in 100 per cent grants, so curtailing the number of projects which can be supported by the money available. They mix their bilateral aid with easy-term "soft" loans. Thus they make their aid more attractive than ours and help the money go much further. The Japanese, for example, spend 40 times as much as we do on soft loans. These and similar tactics are establishing us as serious competitors for big contracts.

The Treasury, in its anxiety to save money, has recently excluded Cyprus from government-backed mixed credit facilities on the grounds that Cyprus is too rich. The French and the Japanese are delighted. With soft loans they have won bread-and-butter orders for telephone cables and electronic equipment which we could have won because of the Cypriot goodwill

which remains towards Britain. Our stock of goodwill is similarly disappearing fast in Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Malaysia, who would like to buy from us, but the governments of our competitors make hire purchase terms on a direct government-to-government basis.

The doctrine that if we make goods at the right quality and the right price we will be able to export them has a large hole in it because we neglect the third element: favourable financing. It is government's job to provide long-term low-interest loans and other enticements which are beyond the capacity of individual firms, however large. We have only 1 per cent of international trade with China because Whitehall makes no money available for loans to China in contrast to other governments, which pour them in. Whitehall's folly is losing us the huge Chinese market, for good.

Throughout the world we offer only £60 million a year in mixed-credit loans, that would not be enough for China alone, absurdly bailed from such loans by Whitehall because of her alleged pro-poority. The annual loan ceiling for China should be at least £100 million and ten times more for the rest of the world.

We pride ourselves on being good at service industries, including financial ones, but the French, Germans and Japanese have understood the point and we have not. Apart from the far better use in supporting their national interest the aid programmes are put to, they spend over twice as much on aid as we do because they know how important it is to home-based industry and employment. Orders for big firms, for example, provide even more employment through sub-contractors.

Hawker Siddeley recently listed five large orders lost through Whitehall's failure to provide financial help as early and as well as other governments. For instance Brush/Hawker Siddeley nearly won the order for a turnkey metro project in South Korea but were thwarted by Japanese financial terms. When Whitehall does come up with realistic financial backing it is frequently after our rivals have worked their way into 90 per cent certainty of winning the order.

Whitehall and ministers believe they are in a gentlemanly world where goodness will triumph. Most ministers are useless at selling Britain abroad. An industrialist remarked to me, "but when Mrs Thatcher gets on the job we know something is likely to happen". Her reward for her arduous Easter South East Asian tour was to be told she ought to have stayed at home devising schemes for renovating sewers.

Large-scale international trade will increasingly be won by those with governments who provide ever-more competitive payment facilities. The rules of the free-market do not apply. Money spent on youth training schemes will be wasted if great swathes are cut through our industries because Whitehall does not understand this fact.

We have to use and improve on the methods of our rivals. Our approach to overseas aid and loans must be transformed. I hesitate to suggest that Mrs Thatcher should take on another task but she alone is capable of making government act fast, collectively and extensively and not slowly, separately and little.

John O'Sullivan

## Too hot under the white collar

Consensus on anything in American society is so rare that the almost universal agreement on strict punishment for white collar criminals comes as a shock. The *Daily News* was fulminating this week that "jail is the best - the only - deterrent for elegant white-haired gentlemen in \$800 suits". What precisely is so objectionable, the wonders about these criminals that sets them so much lower than the ordinary decent mugger?

Part of the explanation is that they are in the news and so available for denunciation by leader writers. The General Electric Company confessed this week to falsifying 100 bills on missile contracts for the US Air Force. It was fined a maximum \$1.04 million and ordered to repay \$800,000. A four-year prison sentence was imposed on Paul Thayer, a former chairman of the US Chamber of Commerce and deputy Secretary of Defence, who helped friends make \$3 million by illegally giving them inside information about future corporate deals and then lied about it.

While there may be white-collar criminals, there is no clear category of white-collar crime. It encompasses a company's decision to dump toxic waste in a river, the embezzlement of that company's funds by a junior clerk, and Thayer's telephone calls.

Why, then, should white-collar criminals be singled out for severe treatment? In most cases it cannot be the character of the crimes themselves. After all, there used to be a theory, much endorsed by decent left-wingers, that crimes against property were not as wicked as crimes against people. It is a false distinction because people own property. Admittedly, some types of harm are more direct than others - dumping toxic waste, for example - but most of the current white-collar cases would be judged secondary.

What harm was suffered by Thayer's victims? Well, some of those who sold their stock to his friends were thereby deprived of an

unexpected windfall capital gain. That is a real loss, but it hardly wrings the wretches.

Advocates of severity point out, however, that the cost to society can be vast. A mugger is often satisfied with \$30. Thayer's friends netted \$3 million. Society therefore has a greater interest in suppressing that crime.

But society's interest is not determined solely by the value of the swag. Most people today are more anxious about being mugged than about the nation losing \$800,000 to defence contractors. The humiliation, fear and sheer social inconvenience of a society in which mugging is commonplace must be taken into account.

The final argument for severity is that, for white-collar criminals - until detection, pillars of society - prison is a unique deterrent which it may not be for muggers, rapists and vandals.

Here again, the logic is upside-down. White-collar criminals are ruined by the simple act of discovery and conviction. That very prospect deters potential embezzlers. Prison will certainly deter as well, but only as an additional, not a unique, deterrent. A professional hand is hardly likely to be deterred solely by the prospect of losing his good name. Arrest may even improve his tearaway reputation.

All other arguments having been exhausted, it seems that white-collar criminals must be treated with particular severity precisely because they are respectable. They are men who have committed crimes, not criminals with an understandable grudge against society. They cannot be condemned to by people pitying their poor background. None of the normal excuses apply.

Thayer, a first offender with a record of public service, was given a prison sentence one year short of the maximum. A first-time mugger, with a string of arrests as a juvenile, would get probation. Clearly reverse discrimination has been extended to crime.





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## CUP FINAL DAY

Before today's Cup Final between Everton and Manchester United the supporters and players will stand in brief silence for the 52 men, women and children who lost their lives last Saturday in the fire at Bradford City. The Cup Final marks the end of the season but except in the playing skills of Everton, it has not been a season of great footballing pride. On few Saturday evenings have the television screens not reported mindless violence alongside the victories and defeats and for the first time in the history of the F.A. Cup a match has had to be played without supporters and behind locked doors. Rioting fans have found new tactics and made deliberate assaults upon the police.

Then comes Bradford and its aftermath of judicial inquiry and journalistic hand-wringing. Next year the grounds will be safer. Mr Justice Popplewell's recommendations will doubtless be given the weight that is their due. Football's administrators hope, no doubt sincerely, that rational change will arise like the phoenix from the ashes of the Valley Parade stand.

Will it? The phoenix is a notoriously elusive bird. Nor is rationality any the more common in the nether divisions of the English Football League. By the time next season begins - heartless though it may seem to say so - the terrifying images of Bradford will be no more topical in the minds of most people on the terraces than last season's price of the bus ticket to the ground.

It is up to the men in the directors' boxes to make sure that the memory of Bradford is properly kept. Last Saturday's fire was not just 52 private catastrophes. Nor was it just an awful warning that something ought to be changed and that "it must never happen again". It was a signal and a symbol of

something that has already changed; that the links between the fiercely strong culture of lower league football and the societies that for so long supported it have snapped.

When J. B. Priestley made his *English Journey* in 1933 he spent a drizzling Saturday afternoon at a football match in Nottingham, admiring the comradeship, the colour and the happiness of the crowds "who pay shillings they can badly afford to see 22 professionals kick a ball about". Priestley's view was that although "nearly everything possible has been done to spoil this game: the heavy financial interests; the absurd transfer and player-selling system; the lack of any birth or residential qualification for the players; the betting and coupon competitions; the monstrous partisanship of the crowds, the fact remains that it is not yet spoilt, and it has gone out and conquered the world."

In 1933 the Football League still had its great days in front of it. The top clubs, strengthened by the competitive pressures of which Priestley wrote were to go on indeed to conquer the world. Four clubs, Tottenham Hotspur, Liverpool and today's Cup finalists form an unofficial Super League which by this evening will have collected 17 domestic and foreign titles over the last five seasons. The other 18 members of the first division have in the meantime won four.

Two years ago Sir Norman Chester was invited to investigate the structure and finance of the League. His committee suggested that the first and second divisions should be reduced to ease fixture congestion and that the third and fourth divisions would be more financially secure if they were regionalized on a part time basis. Although many club chairmen individually and privately agreed with the recommendations, they collectively rejected them.

The wealthy have since been able to renovate their homes. Manchester United, for example, are spending £1 million out of last season's record profit of £1.7 million on improvements at Old Trafford. The less wealthy must make do with ancient monuments. At the kick-off at Valley Parade last Saturday the supporters were as close to Priestley's England of the 1930s as anyone in Britain.

It has been estimated that those in the third and fourth divisions would need to spend £22 million to modernize their grounds. The Government has been asked to help find the money. It is rightly very reluctant to do so. In future there will be new and stricter safety standards. These will bring high costs but clubs with strong local support ought to be able to raise the money. That does not mean just support through the turnstiles but through social clubs and bars, education and training. It means not trying to run a business whose chief asset may be in full use only 35 hours a year.

If they cannot succeed they must ask themselves whether they really have the support for the big league game of the 1980s. Beneath the third and fourth divisions are hundreds of non-league teams whose players may be semi-professional but whose managers are not. They spend less on players and more on comfort. They are just as important to their new communities as are the members of the third and fourth divisions.

At last Saturday's fire many observers noticed how long the football supporters in the stand stood facing into the blaze before taking action to save themselves. It is not unfair to suggest that for too long the football club owners have watched the destruction of their past glories with a similar mix of detachment and fear.

## LESSONS FOR WETS AND DRIES

The inflation rate has almost doubled in two years. Yesterday's alarming figure - 6.9 per cent for the year to April - can be simmered down by ministers to about 5½ per cent by counting out the effect of a 4 per cent rise in mortgage rates since last summer, though only by admitting that the figures of just over 3½ per cent on which they were congratulating themselves in mid-1983 were frankly low. In reality, the underlying rate has been about 5 per cent for some time and has not risen very much. The headline figure is expected to peak soon. But the statistics should teach Mr Francis Pym's followers one lesson, and Mrs Thatcher another two.

Taken with yesterday's production figures, these signs of upward pressure on inflation do not exactly suggest a severely deflated economy. The output of the production industries rose nearly 2 per cent in March; admittedly that month encompassed the collapse of the coal strike, but taking a longer view output was over 3½ per cent higher than in March, 1984, and manufacturing output nearly 4 per cent higher.

Although the past recession was exceptionally severe (so that industrial production is only now regaining 1979 levels), and the recovery gradual, it has been exceptionally sustained. Industry is beginning to report capacity and skill constraints, and the worst Government response would be to accelerate the economy slap into those constraints by old-style budgetary restraint. Britain's inflation rate is significantly above the average for big economies (which is just under 4 per cent); money supply is growing rapidly; and the Chancellor's tenuous grip on market confidence depends on the conviction with which he can demonstrate his control on public borrowing.

New borrowing figures, which added to yesterday's feast of statistics, suggested that things are not going badly so far this year, with a £5 billion contingency reserve in his Budget, the Chancellor ought to be able to absorb most unexpected shocks. But the first lesson for the Government from the inflation figures is that public spending pressures next year will be worse than they supposed. Every per-

centage point on prices adds £350 million a year to the social security bill; and since it is May inflation figures that determine the level of the November uprating, it is no immediate help that the rate may decline in the autumn.

The second lesson is more fundamental. The Government has presided over four years of rising output without turning the tide of unemployment. In that same month of March in which manufacturing output rose 1½ per cent, manufacturing employment dropped 11,000. Jobs are appearing in other industries, but insufficiently fast to absorb the increasing numbers looking for work. If the Government cannot raise the rate of growth enough, it needs to increase its employment content; and to do that, it needs to reduce the cost of labour relative to the cost of capital.

The Chancellor will reply that this is precisely what he has tried to do, through reductions in tax relief on capital spending coupled with lower national insurance. Too little, too late, is the answer to that.

## RIGIDITIES REAFFIRMED

Ulster's two unionist parties did not for once lay about each other. They fought a campaign along parallel lines comprising denunciation of the Anglo-Irish dialogue and "Smash Sinn Féin". They have their reward, a higher combined proportion of first preference votes than last time round. Mr Paisley's sledgehammer unionism has been put back into second place by Mr Molyneux's rampart unionism, but together they have registered the message they wanted to: Protestant Ulster is more solid than ever against any dilution of the union.

On the other side of the community divide Provisional Sinn Féin fell back a shade from the proportion of the total vote it got in the general and European elections of 1983 and 1984. It has won a useful purchase on the district councils, and has slightly enlarged its popular vote beyond the mark of its electoral debut in the provincial assembly elections of 1982. The Social Democratic and Labour Party held to its regular share of around 18 per cent of first preferences. They continue to divide the republic, with Sinn Féin getting something over a third of it.

Wednesday's voting will be warfare in the council chambers. Mr Gerry Adams for Sinn Féin and the leaders of the two unionist parties have already declared it. Mr John Hume deprecates any talk of pacts between the SDLP and Sinn Féin, but the arithmetic on several councils will propel members of those two parties towards some understanding.

That will further taint the SDLP in the eyes of unionists. It will drive even further into the distance any prospect that habituation to shared political experience at local government level may induce Northern Ireland's main constitutional parties to come to an arrangement for devolution at the provincial level, such as to "command widespread acceptance throughout the community" as the statute ordains.

That is one prong in the Government's present policy towards Northern Ireland, to coax the parties to agreement on a form of subordinate self-government. Mr Christopher Patten is the dispenser of good offices to that end, and his chances of success are worsened by these elections. The other prong of policy is the conversations between London and

Dublin with a view to formalizing Dublin's interest in the affairs of Northern Ireland, and so winning a more positive attitude among the Northern nationalist community towards the institutions of the province and its agencies for law enforcement and administration of justice.

On that ambition the precise impact of these elections is less obvious. Dublin has been quick to claim that the relative success of Sinn Féin is further evidence of disaffection among Northern nationalists, lending point to the Forum analysis of the Ulster question and lending urgency to action upon it. What is more, the SDLP as things stand, has the most thankless task of just about any significant party in the British Isles and its morale may be considered to be at risk.

The Government will want to study the election results hard before it adopts that interpretation rather than an alternative: that electorally the Provisional IRA is stuck at a more or less fixed proportion of republicans who will vote for the gun; and the rigidity of attitude and support among the other parties is stony ground for a large political initiative.

## Disquiet at some papal attitudes

From the Reverend B. R. Brinkman, SJ, and others.

Sir, Your correspondent, Peter Nichols, reports from Utrecht (May 16) that in the Netherlands the Pope expressed "his fundamental doubts about the possibility of rational advances in the field of eugenics". That is a profoundly disquieting report. It will not do for subsequent explanations to contend that it was said in Holland and for Dutch consumption.

The report is disquieting for the following reasons:

1. Vatican II's Decree on Ecumenism does not leave room for such official and authoritative scepticism. It teaches that the Holy Spirit is at work in "ecclesial communities" separated from Rome. Of itself such a presence of the spirit is a theological ground for "the possibility of rational advances". Otherwise Christianity is a nonsense.
2. This pontificate indulges in a practical ecumenism running counter to the ecumenical thrust given by Vatican II to which the Pope declares himself to be committed. In the eyes of non-Roman bodies this fact alone tends to diminish the possibility of "rational advances".
3. The "ecumenical recession" thus encouraged then obscures the very "possibilities" themselves of "rational advances". Of course it is not rational to look in the wrong direction for an advance, nor does it help to make ecumenical mountains out of molehills as inevitably happens with a continued tinkering at an "ecumenism of the common ground". Rationality is not the most patient element in the human condition.

The historic ceremonies at Canterbury during the papal visit here implied a high degree of acknowledgment by the Pope of the Christian reality of the Church of England. That was a commitment. If history is not to look upon those symbolic acts and words as a cruel deception, then even papal rationality must for the sake of the gospel be prepared to risk a moment of scandal and equally for the sake of the gospel it will have to make a theological sacrifice of its new-style omnipresent authority.

Yours etc.  
B. R. BRINKMAN,  
F. J. LAISHLEY,  
ROBERT MURRAY,  
Heythrop College,  
11-13 Cavendish Square, W1.  
May 16.

## 40 years on

From Mr Audrey Wells  
Sir, In your editorial (May 8) you informed us that "one of the Western allies' greatest mistakes was to pretend to the world, and to themselves, that the Soviet Union was also fighting for a liberal world order: that we and they meant the same thing by words like 'democracy', 'freedom' and 'self-determination'."

The Russians' war effort, however, was not expressly for any ideology, be it "democracy" or even "communism", but to drive the Nazi invader out of their land. Indeed, your own newspaper made no "pretence" about this. On June 23, 1941, you observed:

"The days are long past when the Russian soldier was expected to die in the name of ideological slogans. Today he swears allegiance only to the Soviet Fatherland."

During the war your newspaper rightly and frequently applauded the heroism of the Russians, their costly scorched earth policy and the achievement of Russian quislings. On July 29, 1941, you reported of our Soviet allies:

"... they have not tried to win battles with their mouths. They have not promised cheap or rapid victories; they have merely said that they would fight to the death, and that they are doing."

It is precisely because our victory cost the Soviet Union 20 million lives that we would do well to respect the fact that in their courageous war effort the Russians, as usual, did nothing by halves; afterwards, by creating a buffer zone in Eastern Europe, they were likewise taking no half-measures to prevent such an invasion happening again.

Yours faithfully,  
AUDREY WELLS,  
London School of Economics and Political Science,  
Language Studies Department,  
Houghton Street, WC2.  
May 8.

## Museum closure

From Mrs P. Forman  
Sir, On the May Day Bank holiday not only is the Imperial War Museum closed, but so are all other museums and galleries under the control of the Civil Service Union, which the British public and tourists from abroad might enjoy visiting on a public holiday.

The Director of the Imperial War Museum has said (May 10) that many of the staff would have liked to serve the public by working on that day. It appears that the Deputy General Secretary of the Civil Service Union (May 14) sees the day as one on which neither the members of the union nor members of the public are to be allowed to exercise freedom of choice, although the pompous language of his letter to you seems designed to conceal this fact.

Unfortunately the May Day Bank holiday was instituted as a political gesture, and the attitude of the CSU leadership seems to be intended to see that it remains bleakly political. Yours faithfully,  
PHYLLIS FORMAN,  
84 Arthur Road, SW19.  
May 14.

## Failing to change genius into jobs

From Mr Parry Mitchell

Sir, Reading your leader (May 15) on the high-technology industries I came away with the feeling that we live in different worlds. Your view is that Britain is really doing quite well, certainly by European standards; whereas my opinion is that our performance is lacklustre.

The figures are stark. We run a net trading deficit on information technology equipment, somewhere in the region of £2 billion. By 1990, on present predictions, the deficit will be approaching £10 billion, coincidentally a figure somewhat akin to our exports of North Sea oil. By the Government's own figures we are failing to produce sufficient high quality electronic and design engineers, yet the same Government continues to hack away at the very universities and polytechnics best equipped to redress this deficiency.

But the biggest problem revolves around a paradox. This nation produces more innovative ideas and certainly collects more Nobel prizes for scientific excellence than either the Europeans or the Japanese, yet we constantly fail to exploit the brilliance of our ingenuity. Where this Government has failed, is that it has not encouraged a framework to facilitate the transfer of technology from our centres of learning and indeed from our defence institutes, into the market place. We need, as it were, to transform our genius into jobs.

The City, we are told, is awash with funds seeking high-technology

investments, but it is the wrong money chasing the wrong projects. The most critical phase in encouraging start-up initiatives is, of course, at the conception stage. Aspiring entrepreneurs working for GEC or Plessey cannot be expected to mortgage their homes, their families and their pensions, without active and encouraging support from the City and the banks.

When a high-technology company has problems the City sources scurry back into the woodwork. Why was it when Acorn Computer was in trouble that the "old" City deserted them? Why was it that only a foreign firm, Olivetti, had the foresight to see Acorn's long-term potential?

The trouble is that we lack depth and vision in understanding these new technologies. Many ventures are risky, but as America and Japan have shown, the rewards are there and, contrary to perceived wisdom, high-technology creates jobs, as these two countries have proved.

In 10 years' time the information technology industry alone will be worth \$1 trillion and it will be the biggest industry in the world. Britain should already be on the inside track, but yet again it appears we are being passed by. That is cause for regret and not for false optimism.

Yours sincerely,  
PARRY MITCHELL, Chairman,  
United Leasing plc,  
14 Welbeck Street, W1.  
May 15.

## Legitimate interest of Centre Forward

From Mr F. H. G. Canton

Sir, I wonder how many more beside myself reading your assessment of Mr Pym's position in your editorial (May 15), "Centre backward", were disappointed. You say: "The man who would be the Tory conscience has become its political archaeologist." Your main concern is to disprove Mr Pym's figures for economic prospects and growth. Nowhere, one does not have centre forwards in modern football. Nor, for that matter, does one have outside lefts and outside rights.

What one does have, these days, is "scooters" - a reflection on which it is perhaps better not to dwell. Yours faithfully,  
EDGAR PALAMOUNTAIN,  
Duns Tew Manor,  
Steeple Aston,  
Oxfordshire.

From Mr Hugh Hanning  
Sir, Mr Robert Saunders (May 15) speaks for only half the country when he says: "It is not Mrs Thatcher, but Thatcherism that we find so disturbing."

For the other half, it is the other way round. Yours etc.  
HUGH HANNING,  
18 Montpelier Row, Blackheath, SE3.

## Priorities at Unesco

From Professor J. D. Fage

Sir, In this year in which the United Kingdom has to decide whether to implement or to rescind the notice of withdrawal from Unesco that it gave last December it is important that comment on that organization's troubled affairs should be well founded. This is unfortunately not always the case with the leader entitled "Death wish at Unesco" in your issue of May 9.

I can only suppose that its writer cannot have seen Unesco's recently published draft programme and budget for 1986-87. This is more clearly set out and more informative than previous C/5 documents. One can for the first time see what each individual part of the programme is expected to cost and that a real effort has been made to reduce contentious activities and to concentrate activities and avoid overlaps.

Above all, one can see that it is just not true that, in the words of your leader, no indication has been given as to "the cuts required now to meet the financial gap created... by the withdrawal... of the United States".

For the first time, each proposed activity has been given a clearly marked priority rating. Even if these priorities may not always be ones that would appeal to us in the

United Kingdom, it is important to appreciate that the cost of all the low-rated activities added together is somewhat more than is needed to meet the shortfall of income brought about by the withdrawal of the United States.

Yours faithfully,  
J. D. FAGE (Chairman, Culture Advisory Committee, UK National Commission for Unesco),  
17 Antrim Gardens,  
Birmingham,  
West Midlands,  
May 10.

## Untangling the towns

From Mr Douglas Hadida

Sir, In support of the urgent need for detailed town maps may I add to the observations of Mr Richard C. Ongley (May 10).

Every motorist to unfamiliar towns finds himself rapidly trying to separate a flitting mass of road signs and other instructions. How much simpler to follow a colour-coded system radiating from each major town centre to adjacent large towns. Yours sincerely,  
DOUGLAS M. HADIDA,  
Little Pelham,  
Whitmans Green,  
Cuckfield,  
West Sussex.  
May 13.

## Mobile defence force

From Mr Tony Baldry MP for Banbury (Conservative)

Sir, Rodney Cowton's articles (May 8, 9) on NATO's northern flank are a timely reminder of the recent massive build-up of Soviet naval and military strength in the Arctic.

However, the articles make a serious omission in the list of NATO forces available to defend Norway - that of the Allied Command Europe (ACE) Mobile Force.

The ACE Mobile Force is a highly trained, rapid response, multi-

national force, including troops from Belgium, Canada, Holland, Italy, Luxembourg, the United Kingdom, the United States and West Germany. Just as important as its deterrent effect, the ACE Mobile Force is a positive embodiment of the concept of NATO that every single foot of NATO territory should be equally protected, from the north of Norway to the southern tip of Turkey.

Yours faithfully,  
TONY BALDRY,  
House of Commons,  
May 9.

## Countering racism

From Mr Frank Palmer

Sir, Professor Michael Dummett's diatribe (May 7) against Roger Scruton (article April 16) is a clear example of the rhetoric of the anti-racist lobby. The machinations of Bradford Council in their aggressive nineteen-eighty-fourish treatment of Mr Honeyford, the ludicrous "Orwellian" persecution of Rowntree by the GLC in their risible Kit-Kat bar, are both recent examples of the dangerous mentality Dr Scruton justly castigates.

If (genuine) racism thrives on intolerance and fanaticism it can hardly be "countered" by banner-waving, power-mad fanatics who are so obsessed with their crusade that they "use" racism and sexism everywhere. The "racism" many teachers are exhorted to fight has nothing to do with the persecution of the Jews or the institution of

slavery; it is largely the factitious construct of Marxist revolutionaries and misled liberals who, in their single-cause fanaticism, seek to undermine liberal democracy by first destroying our educational institutions.

"If racial bigotry is wrong," says Professor Dummett, "it is wholly wrong." I am not sure what work is done by the word "wholly" here (unless its task is simply to prevent a tautology) but it certainly does not follow that educationists should make it their whole concern. Yet that is precisely what the anti-racists propose and it is one sign among many others that Scruton is a better philosopher than Dummett that he is able to penetrate such political bombast.

Yours faithfully,  
FRANK PALMER,  
78 Waldegrave Park,  
Strawberry Hill,  
Twickenham,  
Middlesex.

## ON THIS DAY

MAY 18 1868

Theodore II was king of Abyssinia 1855-68. From the outset of his reign local chiefs were constantly in rebellion, which Theodore crushed with appalling acts of atrocity. In 1864 the British consul Charles Duncan

Cameron was accused of plotting against Theodore and he, with British subjects and European missionaries, was imprisoned. A British force led by Sir Robert (later Lord) Napier invaded the country in January 1868 and defeated the king at the stronghold of Magdala. The extract below is from two dispatches on this day with a total of over 9,000 words.

## THE CAPTURE OF MAGDALA

Magdala has been taken, and Theodore, killed by his own hand, lies, under the guard of a British sentry, in the last and strongest of the wonderful series of his strongholds. We have already told you that all the European prisoners were free, and yesterday, on the capture of Magdala, the Abyssinian prisoners also were set free, and the leading nobles of the country, kept by the tyrant as hostages, each for the slavery of his own province - had their chains knocked off.

The Abyssinian Expedition has terminated with all the success for which the most sanguine ever hoped - far more than most of us ever dared to expect - and the force has now nothing to do but to make its way as quickly as possible out of this inhospitable, uninteresting country, men thinking little of the terrible journey before them, now that their lives are no longer turned from home to the sea.

Magdala would be taken at more or less cost of blood and treasure nobody indeed ever doubted, but up to the very last moment it was thought not improbable that the expedition would be abandoned, perhaps, at some future day, the oppressor of his country, and thus one of the objects of the Expedition would be left unaccomplished or indefinitely postponed, while as a prisoner in our hands, he would have been an obvious source of embarrassment. His death is therefore universally regarded with unmixed satisfaction. It would be altogether to pity a tyrant who himself knew no pity, who was as unscrupulous and crafty as he was cruel, and who had indeed every reason to style himself the Scourge of God sent to punish the people. He has met with a death far more merciful than he dealt out to better men, and far more honourable than he meted out to his character, except, perhaps, his dauntless bravery and invincible determination, deserved. Those few to whom these qualities recommended him to some sort of mercy had only to look for a moment into the four corners of his house, the loathsome human shambles which was yesterday exposed to our horrified gaze as we neared Magdala, and every lingering trace of compassion at once disappeared. We had been told by his prisoners, our fellow-countrymen, that the day before the arrival of the British army Theodore had summoned all the prisoners to his presence, and had in cold blood butchered over 300 of them, some with his own hand, almost without sign and hearing of the rest, who momentarily expected the same fate. But though details of this kind make one shudder, the mind of a civilized man, whose experience runs counter to a vivid faith in the actual existence of such atrocities, will not be so fully realized them, or take in their whole terrible import. Yesterday, however, nothing was left to the imagination, the tragedy was forced in all its naked horror upon our startled senses. A strange smile, for which there was no apparent cause, made some of our party look over the edge of a steep cliff, almost within a few yards of the spot from which the guns were beginning to play upon Magdala, and there, on a ledge about 50 feet high, lay two large heaps of mangled human bodies, closely piled upon each other in ghastly confusion, their limbs protruding from the mass in all sorts of repulsive attitudes and contortions, and presenting altogether a scene of horror such as no pen could adequately describe, could any pen be found to undertake the task. Here was the latest, though not by any means the worst, specimen of the pious but most self-elected Scourge of God. More than 300 of the mutilated and disabled his victims, leaving them to die of their wounds, or to the more tender mercy of the hyena. On Dalanta one of the force picked up two bodies, one of which they had cut off. The only exceptionally cruel feature in this last massacre was its unusual wantonness. The victims were, many of them, prisoners for very slight offences, and men of no importance, who might with perfect safety have been set free. Theodore feared the expense of keeping them during a siege, and considered it perhaps derogatory to his dignity to need them again, given (a) warm water installations designed for easy cleaning and conventional disinfection, and (b) good housekeeping. There is nothing else about it which is magical.

Yours faithfully,  
G. S. SOLT, Director,  
School of Water Sciences,  
Cranfield Institute of Technology,  
Cranfield, Bedford.

From the Director of the School of Water Sciences  
Sir, First herpes, then Aids, now legionnaires' disease threatens to become a myth. The current epidemic should not obscure the fact the Legionella is a straightforward bacterium. It causes a serious disease, but one which (like cholera or typhoid) no one need suffer again, given (a) warm water installations designed for easy cleaning and conventional disinfection, and (b) good housekeeping. There is nothing else about it which is magical.

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18 - 24 May 1985

# Big shots and feats of clay

The split second when eye, gun and target line up for the kill gives clay pigeon fanciers - both novice and expert - a deep sense of accomplishment, writes Ronald Faux

There is the whiff of spent gunpowder drifting across the hollow in the moors where the inebriated is being shot at by the incompetent. Lead shot whistles to both sides of the target, a flying circle of pottery.

"Aim ahead of the clay. Point forwards, swing the gun smoothly, let it be an extension of your arm," Justin Jones says. He is enthusiastic and expert, not only at reducing clay pigeons to powder but at teaching newcomers how to do the same.

A thud and the sound of breaking crockery comes from a metal box across the hollow. Justin mutters something about a bad batch of birds when a driven grouse of the non-feathered variety, a clay disc emulating the low straight flight of the feathered sort, flies from the box and almost parts my hair.

"Concentrate", I grumble to myself, slipping off the safety catch ready for its mate. Two more whisks overhead unscathed and I make a couple of holes in the sky.

Then grouse number three sails towards the barrels of the gun which I swing smoothly upwards as instructed immediately ahead of the disc's trajectory. The deafening explosion is muffled by the patent car plugs, the gun muzzles momentarily into my shoulder on the recoil and the pseudo bird vanishes in a shower of splinters.

Eye, gun and target were, for that essential split second, all lined up and my trigger finger co-ordinated. The sense of accomplishment that small destruction gives is intense.

We are at the Jackie Stewart Shooting School which opened this year on a moor above Gleneagles Hotel in Perthshire, Scotland. It was a bitterly cold day and the sloe guns were sizzling very quickly among the guests as Mr Stewart, normally the most expert of shots, missed a couple of slow rising magnums of champagne before shattering a third.

Jackie Stewart may be best known as a three times world motor racing champion but he is the grandson of a game-keeper, and won his first clay shooting competition at the age of 14. He went on to shoot competitively for eight years, winning the Scottish, English, Irish, Welsh and British titles and the Coupe des Nations.

He was a member of the British team in 1960, shortly before he retired from competitive shooting to concentrate on motor racing. He believes that his skill as a marksman helped him to the highest number of Grand Prix wins in the history of the sport.

"Hand and eye co-ordination must be first-class in both. Give me a good sportsman or sportswoman and within a short time I will make them into very capable shots", he says.

To shoot accurately meant consuming information and processing and acting on it in a very positive way. The same way that a racing driver travelling at 180mph must be able to recognize the braking distances before a bend.

Jackie Stewart concedes if newcomers lack natural flow or flair they can go on to become very good "mechanical" shots. "They may not be so fluid or beautiful to watch, but they can still be absolutely accurate and get the same satisfaction from shooting".

Back to my lesson with Justin Jones, who is chief instructor at the school. The weather is clear and beyond the moor the Grampian Mountains stretch in a magnificent backdrop. Justin produces another cartridge. "One more shot, just to make sure it wasn't a fluke", he says. Ah ye of little faith. The next bird disintegrates in mid-flight and I feel I have taught it a sharp lesson. I break the barrel, the cartridge ejects and there is that warlike smell of gunpowder again.

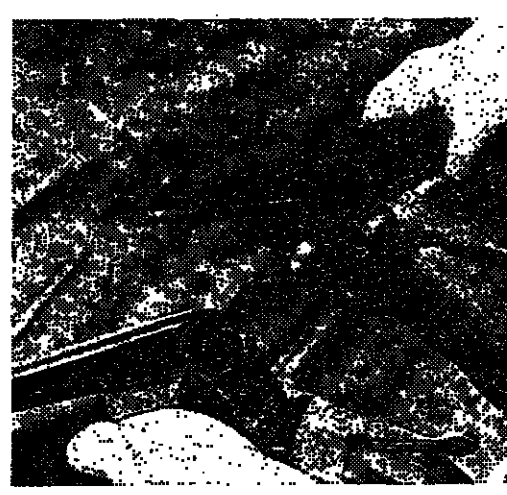
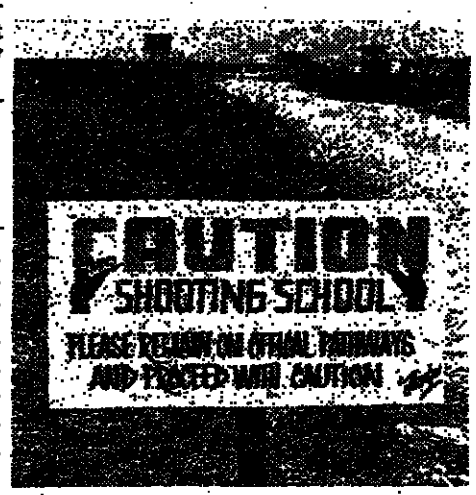
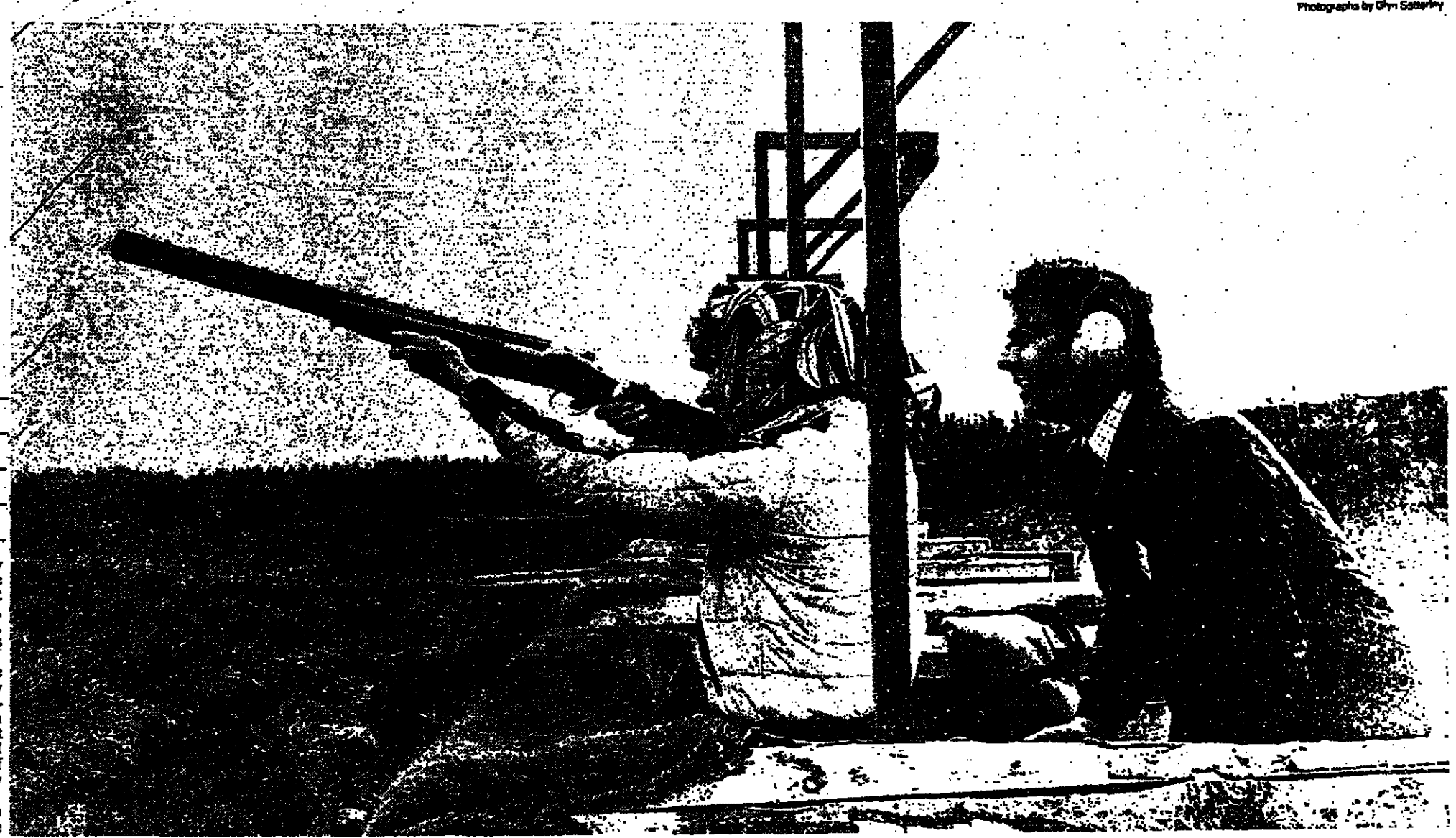
We walk to the next built to try something rather more difficult. Driven grouse make perhaps the easiest target, rising directly on to the guns. Rising

teal are a different kettle of bird, springing up from under the shooter's feet before making themselves scarce as a rapidly diminishing target.

The trap mechanisms at Gleneagles, operated by remote push-button, can dispatch discs that imitate a variety of birds. Guns can practise without a drop of blood being spilt or feather blown out of place. Indeed, many marksmen prefer to destroy clay replicas to the real thing. The real birds seem to appreciate this.

A covey of grouse nested in the heather is in direct line of fire but the females sit unperturbed on their eggs.

As student guns progress and gain in accuracy they will quite soon "kill" more birds than they miss. They may then wish to try the moor's most demand-



Ready, aim, fire: For best results, line up your target, keep your eyes peeled, know when the gun is loaded, and do not shoot until the clay has been launched

ing challenge: a pigeon dispenser that is computer-programmed to fire targets unpredictably. A bird brain in the target machine lets off the discs at any angle and in any direction. Hitting them requires swift and accurate co-ordination.

Skeet shooting, popular in America, is the nearest thing to a Western show-down that clay pigeons can give. Targets fly in opposing directions across a semi-circle of gun positions. In English skeet the gun may be held at shoulder level but in international skeet the gunstock must be kept at waist level until the targets appear. This demands especially sharp reflexes.

Justin Jones readjusts the stock further into my shoulder and releases another bird. A

simulated high pheasant and another cloud of leadshot win their freedom. "Four feet to the right and behind. You did not keep ahead of the birds", he says. The next high pheasant is less lucky and reels away with a lump out of its side.

Justin leads me along the line of grouse butts and shooting stands and grey machinery crouching in the heather. He operates the press button that fires the targets several yards away. This way he can keep absolute control over what is going on.

In competition a shooter must not think about his score, only about hitting the target accurately. Justin Jones recalls scoring 179 hits out of 200 in the Olympic trap, the fastest and most demanding form of clay marksmanship.

The clays are fired at lightning speed "down the line" away from the gun. The qualifying score for selection to the junior British team was 180. "Never mind", he says. "I've won a few other cups."

Clay pigeon shooting can become totally enthralling. Since the recent celebrity challenge at Gleneagles when royalty rubbed shoulders with show-business personalities in a charity event, business has increased quite briskly.

One group of company executives and their customers fired 1,000 rounds between them during a morning. They had thoroughly got the bug. Some shots use clays simply as a way to train for game shooting. Others regard clay shooting as a complete sporting discipline in itself.

For Jackie Stewart the basic appeal of the sport is its classless camaraderie. "It does not matter how many titles you have got, there is still the same amount of air around a clay pigeon when you are trying to hit it."

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## Which of these languages would you like to speak?

Tick the one you want to speak in 3 months' time

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Afrikaans      | <input type="checkbox"/> French         | <input type="checkbox"/> Malay                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> American       | <input type="checkbox"/> (Intermediate) | <input type="checkbox"/> Norwegian                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> English        | <input type="checkbox"/> German         | <input type="checkbox"/> Polish                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arabic         | <input type="checkbox"/> (Intermediate) | <input type="checkbox"/> Portuguese               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (Modern)       | <input type="checkbox"/> Greek          | <input type="checkbox"/> Russian                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese        | <input type="checkbox"/> (Modern)       | <input type="checkbox"/> Serbo-Croat              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (Mandarin)     | <input type="checkbox"/> Hebrew         | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Danish         | <input type="checkbox"/> (Modern)       | <input type="checkbox"/> (Castilian)              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dutch          | <input type="checkbox"/> Hindi          | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish (Latin American) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> English        | <input type="checkbox"/> Icelandic      | <input type="checkbox"/> Swedish                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (Intermediate) | <input type="checkbox"/> Indonesian     | <input type="checkbox"/> Thai                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> English        | <input type="checkbox"/> Irish          | <input type="checkbox"/> Welsh                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (Advanced)     | <input type="checkbox"/> Italian        |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finnish        | <input type="checkbox"/> Japanese       |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> French         | <input type="checkbox"/> Korean         |   |

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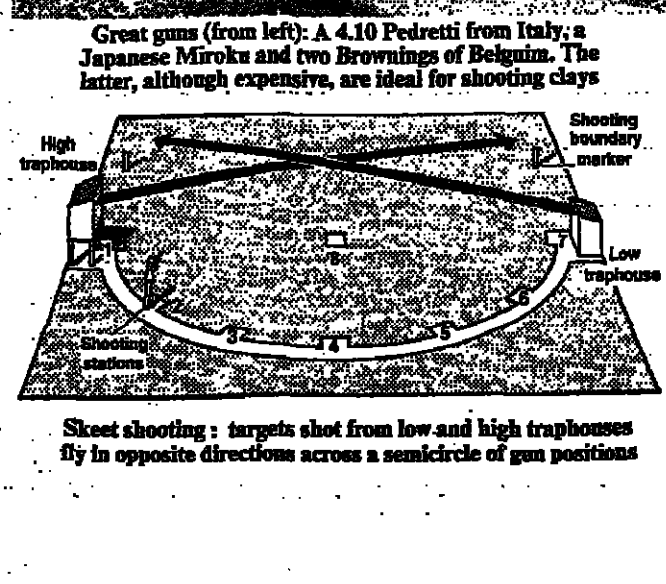
## Choosing the right weapons

The best known names among the British gun makers are Purdey, Boss and Holland & Holland, all of whom make magnificent guns costing up to £30,000 a pair. Jackie Stewart admits to owning a couple of Purdey's and a pair of Boss's, lovely guns but clays do not demand such exotic weaponry. Stewart uses a simple Browning, among the cheapest of the good guns that cost him £119 when he bought it 28 years ago.

"It is the gun I feel most comfortable with and confident about although I have known people look down their noses at it. There is still a degree of snobbishness about the subject. It doesn't worry me, it is accuracy that counts", he said.

The choice of a sporting gun is a personal matter and depends on the type of shooting you are planning to become involved in. For clays a double-barrel 12 bore is most suitable. The Gleneagles school recommends the "over and under" design of gun which has the barrels mounted vertically since this is generally easier for the novice to use accurately. Smaller bore guns may be lighter to handle but they are generally less powerful and require much greater accuracy to hit the target. The balance of the gun is extremely important and should centre on the pin around which the barrels swivel. A heavier gun is generally not a disadvantage when it is well balanced and it will have a less powerful recoil.

A good quality Browning of Belgium "over and under" ideal for shooting clays costs £1,600 but a run-of-the-mill specialist gun such as the Russian Balkal can be bought for about £250. Properly cared for a good gun should last a lifetime, which makes second-hand guns worthwhile considering if they come from a reputable dealer.



## TAKING AIM

● The parent organization of the sport is the Clay Pigeon Shooting Association (CPSA) which started life in the 1880s as the Inanimate Bird Shooting Association. Shooting live pigeons was popular in those days but some fastidious one day decided that breeding clay was more acceptable than slaughtering pigeons. The CPSA was formed in 1928 and British shooters are among the world leaders having won gold medals at Olympic, world and European championships.

● Mr Brian Hammond, development officer for the CPSA, claims that clay pigeon shooting ranks, with golf, second only to angling as the most popular outdoor sport. Over the last two months 1,000 new members have enrolled. The association has more than 11,500 members and represents 530 clubs throughout Britain. The £10 membership fee includes full indemnity insurance.

● Newcomers to the sport are recommended to take instruction or go on a residential course where they are taught by CPSA authorized coaches. This may cost £15 to £20 an hour but it is money well spent. If the tyro decides to continue he will be wise not to rush into buying a gun but to wait until he does his specialization and what type of gun best suits him. A licence will cost £12 and last three years. Application forms from your nearest police station.

● The Clay Pigeon Shooting Association is at 107 Epping New Road, Buckhurst Hill, Essex IG9 5TQ (01-505 6221).

● The Jackie Stewart Shooting School offers shooting breaks at £195 per person lasting three days with two nights in extreme comfort at Gleneagles Hotel. The price includes meals, instruction and 200 clays and cartridges. The executive day costs £140 each in a single room overnight accommodation, all equipment and instruction. The corporation day is £75 per person and includes coffee, lunch and tea, all equipment and instruction. Individual instruction is £50 for 100 clays and cartridges, £25 for 50 and £15 for 25. The school has a shop attached which stocks a selection of sensible boots, essential waterproofs and rustic headgear. Shooting, even at the humble clay pigeon, requires that one looks the part.

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# TRAVEL

## Ron Allan gives some tips on walking along the spine of the Pyrenees Footpath to the heights of grandeur

Give or take a few misplaced feet, and over several holidays, I have walked the 250 miles of the long-distance footpath from Hendaye on the Atlantic coast of France to Banyuls on the Mediterranean.

Footpath is, perhaps, a misnomer as it conjures up a picture of leisurely meandering across gentle meadows. Nothing could be further from the truth on this trek that follows the spine of the Pyrenees, often along the Spanish frontier and often at heights of between 6,000 and 8,000 feet. Meadows there are, but they are usually wild tracts of rough pasture clinging to the steep flanks of high mountains, grazed by long-legged sheep, while the lower slopes tend to be wooded.

Cutting across the grain of the country as it does, the *sentier de grande randonnée* number 10 is not easy. There is little prolonged walking on the tops, as the path constantly climbs a col only to descend on the other side, and nobody who is not used to strenuous walking should seriously consider it. It is waymarked with the customary GR red and white flashes, though they have a disconcerting habit of disappearing at crucial points. Five *topoguides* describe the route. These are substantial paperbacks with verbal directions (often inadequate), maps (not always well reproduced) and, most useful, details of accommodation and walking times.

At the two extremities of the way, the Basque country and the *Pyrenées orientales*, where the mountains are not quite so high, accommodation is not too much of a problem as there is usually a sizeable village in the valleys. In the central sections, *pays Basque*, if there are no fleas that leave it because there are virtually no inns. The walker has to rely on *refuges* (stone huts giving rudimentary shelter), *gîtes* (better appointed with cooking facilities but rarely providing meals), or *refuges gards* which are only open during the months of July, August and part of September, but which serve excellent meals and have comfortable dormitory accommodation.

In many parts of the central *departements*, however, there is no other real alternative but to carry a tent and food.

The Basque section and part of the final Mediterranean stretch (the *topoguides* assume

in their descriptions a departure from Hendaye) are open all the year round, but along the greater part of the route the GR 10 is blocked by snow from October to June. Local opinions differ on the best time to go. June and July are the favoured months; in June the sun is not too severe and the flowers are at their best and in both months the weather is at its most stable.

By common consent, August is judged to be the rainiest of the summer months and, while September can be gloriously sunny and yet not too hot, the days are shorter and some of the camp sites and *refuges gards* are closed after the first week. At all times you have to be equipped to withstand thunderstorms and heavy rain, and at high altitudes the nights are cold.

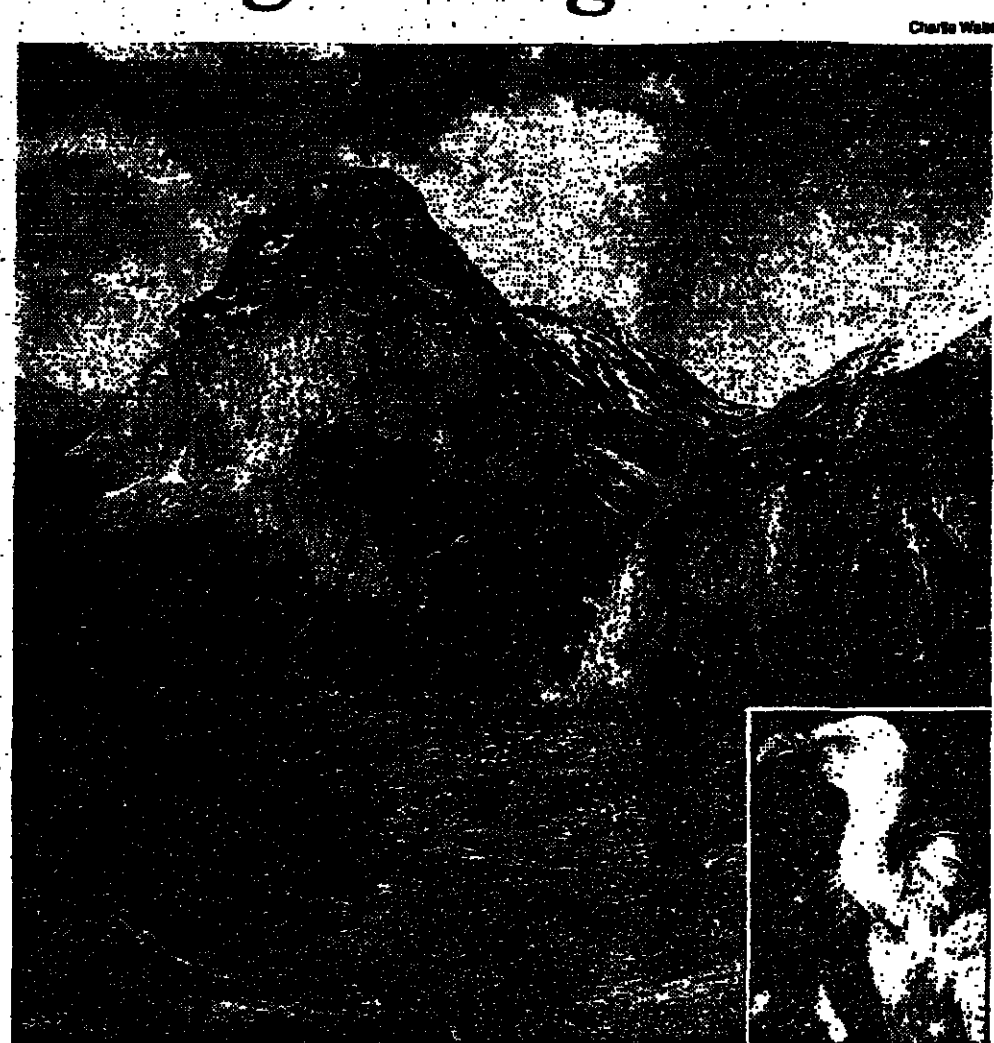
If you are well shod and are used to bumping the necessities to survive up steep climbs over the rough terrain, the rewards are very satisfying. For the most part, you will be alone, sur-

**'Giant vultures circle on thermals almost the whole length of the Pyrenees'**

rounded by an immense jumble of high peaks with their ancient glacial architecture of cirques, lakes and moraines, their roaring torrents and waterfalls. The geology of the Pyrenees is complex and the landscape varies dramatically as the track makes its way (60 days is the official time for completing it) from the lush green of the Basque country to the arid, prickly flora of the drier Mediterranean climate.

The dominant note is one of grandeur and the wild life is often on this scale, too. Though you will not see one of the few remaining bears in the Aspe valley, you will not fail to be impressed by the giant vultures, often a dozen at a time, that circle on thermals almost the whole length of the Pyrenees. Lizards, a kind of wild goat, can be seen in the more remote regions. For the botanist, the mountains are a source of constant delight.

If you do not fancy backpacking - and there is no virtue in carrying a hotel on your back - do not despair. There is another way of enjoying this magnificent scenery. All along the foothills and often deep into the



High in the Pyrenees: Le Billaire above Lescun and one of its native giant vultures

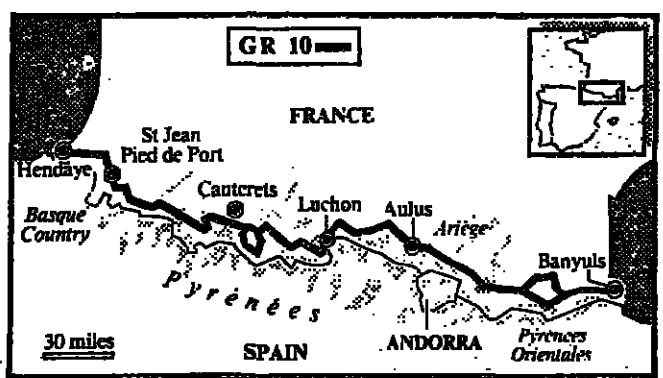
valleys there are towns such as St Jean Pied de Port, Cautelets and Luchon where you can put up at reasonably priced hotels. If you have a car, you can motor to a suitable point - often along a forest road - from which you can spend a day in the mountains.

Or you can climb up to one of the *refuges gards* and do a circular tour; most *refuges* allow a stay of up to three nights - longer if the space is available. Many of these circular tours are described in the *topoguides* and local *syndicats d'initiative* usually have information on them.

There is a third way to see the remote Pyrenees and that is to walk along the unmarked routes called the *Haute Randonnée Pyrénéenne*. This keeps to the high peaks and is for specialists. Amateurs would do well to steer clear of it.

**TRAVEL NOTES**  
The centre for walkers in the Pyrenees is Randonnées Pyrénéennes, 3 Square Balagué, 08200 Saint-Girons, France. The centre will provide information free and send a catalogue of its publications, but please include an

International Reply Coupon. Hotel lists and travel literature are available from the French Tourist Office, 178 Piccadilly, London W1. Maps: There is now full coverage of the GR 10 in a series of nine maps at 1:50,000 available from Edward Stanford Ltd, 12-14 Long Acres, London WC2E 9LP, who can also supply the necessary *topoguides*.



## Riding through a Tuscan autumn

Sylvia Howe hacks round a landscape unchanged for hundreds of years

We were 10 miles out of Rendola, climbing up a steep hillside, when the pain began to take hold. I had been in the saddle for three hours or so and my knees were beginning to creak. Not a gentle searing seat creak, but the large crunching of an oak tree in a stiff breeze.

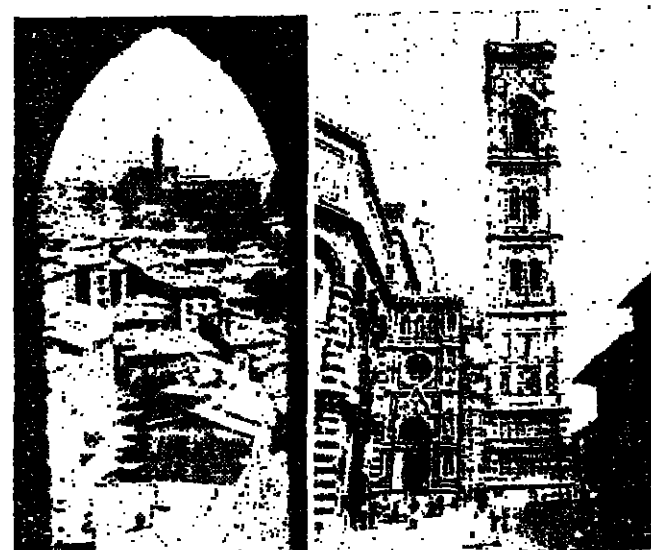
There was no breeze at all in the hills above Rendola in October, and you could see the towers of Siena on the horizon. The landscape was littered with intent Italians, hunting boar. They were busy building hides and installing themselves behind walls of cypress branches, and waiting.

Cypress is the tree that makes the Tuscan landscape what it is. Leonardo would have been lost without it. The views have not changed in hundreds of years, thanks not to the innate preservative instincts of the population but to the unflagging efforts and quite considerable power of the Belle Arti, a vigilant body that sees to it that buildings and places of beauty are kept like that.

We started in Rendola at the stables run by Jenny Dawtree, or Jenny di Rendola, an English emigre. No nonsense about her. She fitted me with a benevolent monster called Vulcano and, with four Italians, we set off up the hills till we were riding along above the valleys. The sun was hot, the horses sprightly, and we meandered towards our goal - lunch at a tower in the distance.

Three hours later, we reached it, an abbey called Badia a Coltibuono. The main building, old, square and practical, is set about a courtyard, and there are various cellars and outbuildings, filled with bottles and vats. Rosy virginia creeper coated the walls and warmly matched the autumn leaves. A swimming pool set in the hillside is far enough away not to spoil the picture of a Tuscan villa in a Tuscan landscape. There was a knot garden, with neatly trimmed low hedges, trees and pergolas. We sat on a warm wall, drinking red wine.

The picnic was in a field nearby. Pietro, Jenny's right hand man, produced sausages, salami, cheese, bread, plum



Window on Italy: Siena (left) and Florence

tomatoes, gallons of wine, and real cypresin coffee. The ride back was a daunting two and a half hours. The light began to fade as we trotted through woods and villages, past games of football on uneven greens, and people collecting mushrooms. As we came back to the stable yard, I had almost to be winched off my horse, which turned thankfully into his stable and towards his dinner.

Back to the self-catering apartments at Castel Ruggero, on the estate of the Marchese Enrico d'Adda - comfortable but hardly luxurious, although improvements are to be made. I stayed in one above the stables and the thuds of restless animals at 3am were occasionally disconcerting. Less so was a ride on one of them along the rim of the Marchese's vineyards, again in the evening, the lights of Siena replaced by the lights of Florence, 12 miles away.

Donald Francis is the organ-

ist at the English church in the Via Maglio in Florence. He takes the interested on unusual and inspiring tours of Florence. Under his guidance we learnt the different shapes and designs of buildings, and soon could spot the difference between a 14th and a 15th century palace. We visited the vast Palazzo Strozzi, rock solid in the middle of the square. In the basement is kept the original wooden model the architects presented to their clients, instead of drawings. It, in itself, is a work of art.

Next door is the very smart Calle Strozzi, where the young and glamorous go for refreshment. The owner is a man about Florence who appears to have most of the young women about town at his beck and call.

Because of Donald Francis's connections we were allowed into the Palazzo Corsini, one of the few baroque palaces in the city, not generally open to the public. It has a wonderful curling staircase, twisting upwards in a controlled sweep of dark and pale grey marble. The Principessa Corsini gave us a guided tour. In the married hall we put on felt overshoes so that we would not mark the floor, and slid after her through room after room after room, containing paintings mostly by Florentine artists.

The tours are designed to suit, but if you prefer to stick to the Uffizzi and the Pitti and the other well-charted tourist routes, you can cover the familiar landmarks in a very compact city by yourself.

### TRAVEL NOTES

Sylvia Howe went to Tuscany with Marina Holidays, 38 Endless Street, Salisbury SP1 3JA (0722 332121). Two weeks for two people accommodation only, from £282. Self-drive, £367. Car hire from Pisa Airport is about £146 a week. Charter or scheduled flights through Marina from Gatwick from £124. Tours with Donald Francis in Florence (055) 262827. The Italian State Tourist Office is at 1 Prince's Street, London, W1 (01-408 1254).

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## A clear round with Bertie Wooster and friends

Perhaps it was the war or its aftermath, but in recent years surprisingly few British golfers have followed the admirable example set by Bertie Wooster and the Drones and chosen the links of Le Touquet for golfing breaks.

In the 1930s, the creations of P. G. Wodehouse, who lived a brassy shot from the town's two adjacent courses, were joined in real life at the fashionable French resort by the upper reaches of British society, either to play golf or enjoy the pleasures offered by the casino.

Certainly the bombs that rained down on Hitler's defences not only managed to reshape some fairways with crater-size bunkers, but destroyed the clubhouse and nearby hotel. Even now the occasional mortar is discovered in undergrowth yards from a tee or green, but the wounds inflicted 40 years ago have mostly healed.

The villa next door to the destroyed hotel was converted years ago to take its place, and the sea course, which took the brunt of the war damage, was re-opened in 1956. To mark the club's 80th anniversary this year, a new clubhouse was opened officially in the spring.

Whatever the reason, British golfers who venture from their home courses seem to prefer to visit the links and heather-lined fairways of Scotland or to examine the new opportunities offered by the growing number of courses in the Spain. Indeed, the possibility of hopping across the Channel to play, let alone the advantages and natural attrac-

**Richard Evans finds  
Le Touquet offers  
British golfers  
more than nostalgia**

tions offered, seem lost on most club players.

In contrast to Spain, and to a degree Scotland, the courses at Le Touquet are not congested. The green fees - about £10 a day - are still reasonable, and the travelling is quick and simple. Half an hour's drive from the Boulogne hoverport and you can be on the first tee only four hours after leaving London.

The sea course - you can just spot the Channel from the 13th tee - hosted the French Open in the mid-1970s and is every bit as tough as the Hillside and Hunstantons of this world. The inevitable strong breeze only adds to the difficulties posed by 6,140 metres of links, whose fairways wind between dunes covered in treacherous buckthorn, gorse and trees, or wry grass.

While the course's length is a

major obstacle for "tiger", or "rabbit", it is the par-three holes that pose the biggest threat to a decent score.

Whether it is on the wind-swept sea course, or the forest course next door, the French appear to derive a perverse pleasure from making life as difficult as possible at short holes.

Consider the ninth on the sea course for a moment. Slightly uphill, it measures only 120 metres (sorry, 131 yards). Yet between the tee and elevated green lies impenetrable scrub. The green, guarded at the back by bunkers and other horrors, is protected to its right and at the front by thick bushes. On the left edge is an almost sheer 30ft drop into sandy dunes.

Add to that a howling crosswind and it is the perfect setting for a Marty Feldman golfing nightmare in which you hit tee shot after tee shot, never to see them again.

The forest course is less daunting and more picturesque. It is a classical parkland test with generously wide fairways, lined by a subtle mixture of tall Austrian pine, silver birch and poplar.

If the contrast provided by Le

Touquet's double layout somehow fails to satisfy the golfer's appetite, the 18 holes at Hardelet, carved out of a pine forest, should do the trick.

But first a health warning. If you suffer from golfing claustrophobia and like your fairways wide open, stay away. I have rarely played a course where accuracy from the tee is so necessary. Not only must the tee shot stay on the narrow fairway, but on several sharply dog-legged holes it must be placed on the right side to have any chance of a shot into the green, which is often elevated and protected by sand.

If golf takes off as a popular sport in France, the strip of coast spreading westward from Boulogne should become a mecca. Driving towards Le Touquet you cannot help

noticing the similarity in landscape, with its miles of dunes, to that of west Lancashire, home of some of Britain's best courses.

And by being able to offer a host of added holiday attractions - a sandy beach, an equestrian centre of Olympic standard, tennis, fishing and first-class restaurants - Le Touquet will be an attractive proposition for a golfer's non-playing partner.

Language difficulties for those whose French is rusty or non-existent are minimal. Le Manoir Hotel, just 100 yards from the golf courses and much improved in recent years, is the obvious base for golfers and English is spoken by virtually all the staff.

Meanwhile, on the course the French for "fore" is... "fore".

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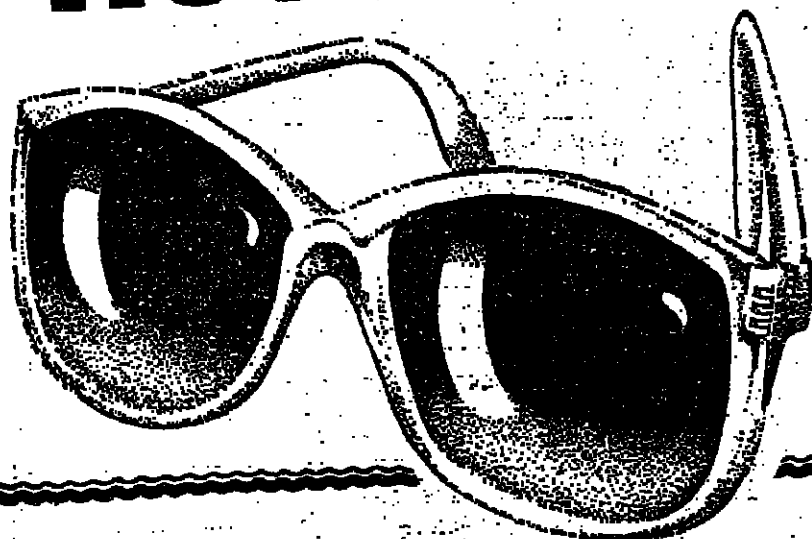
### TRAVEL NOTES

Richard Evans travelled with Eurogolf. Their prices run from £107 and include bed, breakfast and dinner for two nights at Le Manoir Hotel, Channel crossing by Hovercraft, including car, and free green fees. Eurogolf, 41 Watford Way, Hendon, London NW4 3JH (01-202 0191). Le Touquet Syndicate (including golf course and Le Manoir Hotel) (010-33-21-06-20-22).

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Basel	£270.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£272.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£275.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£278.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£280.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£282.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£285.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£288.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£290.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£292.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£295.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£298.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£300.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£302.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£305.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£308.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£310.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£312.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£315.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£318.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£320.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£322.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£325.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£328.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£330.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£332.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£335.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£338.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£340.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£342.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£345.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£348.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£350.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£352.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£355.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£358.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£360.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£362.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£365.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£368.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£370.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£372.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£375.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£378.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£380.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£382.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£385.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£388.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£390.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£392.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£395.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£398.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£400.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£402.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£405.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£408.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£410.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£412.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£415.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£418.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£420.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£422.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£425.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£428.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£430.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£432.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£435.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£438.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£440.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£442.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£445.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£448.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£450.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£452.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£455.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£458.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£460.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£462.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£465.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£468.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£470.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£472.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£475.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£478.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£480.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£482.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£485.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£488.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£490.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£492.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£495.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£498.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£500.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£502.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£505.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£508.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£510.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£512.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£515.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£518.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£520.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£522.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£525.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£528.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£530.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£532.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£535.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£538.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£540.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£542.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£545.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£548.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£550.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£552.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£555.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£558.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£560.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£562.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£565.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£568.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£570.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£572.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£575.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£578.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£580.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£582.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£585.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£588.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£590.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£592.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£595.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£598.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£600.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£602.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£605.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£608.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£610.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£612.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£615.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£618.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£620.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£622.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£625.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£628.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£630.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£632.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£635.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£638.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£640.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£642.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£645.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£648.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£650.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£652.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£655.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£658.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£660.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£662.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£665.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£668.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£670.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£672.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£675.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£678.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£680.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£682.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£685.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£688.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£690.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£692.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£695.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£698.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£700.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£702.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£705.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£708.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£710.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
St Gallen	£712.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Lucerne	£715.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Interlaken	£718.00	1st class, 10 days, 10 nights
Basel	£72	







## IN THE GARDEN

## Prospect of perfection at Chelsea



I get the same feeling of excitement each year as we approach the Chelsea Flower Show - the finest show in Europe, probably the world. It still attracts more exhibits than can be fitted into its limited space and I'm sure that this show will be as good, if not better, than the last, which was of a particularly high standard.

This year one of the newest exhibits is The Times Rose, grown to commemorate the 20th anniversary of The Times. This rose was the President's International Trophy winner for 1982 and it also won a gold medal in that year at the Royal National Rose Society's trial grounds at Chiswick Green. Raised by the gardeners of Germany it is being introduced by Matkoc's Roses of Oxfordshire and will be named officially on Monday by Mrs Anna Murdoch, wife of Mr Rupert Murdoch, chairman of Times Newspapers.

It is a floribunda and, under the new nomenclature, it is classed as a cluster-flowered variety. It is not a tall grower and is the ideal height for garden display either in beds or borders. The foliage is clean and glossy with a bronze sheen in spring and it is also disease resistant. The flowers are between scarlet and blood-red in colour and the clusters at the tips of shoots have a number of fairly large flowers which shatter well at the end of their useful life. The colour in the flower remains constant and does not fade, so the flowers die gracefully. A cross between Tormax x Redgold, the flower is not highly scented.

Exhibitors normally begin pre-

Ashley Stephenson on  
The Times rose and  
other stars of the finest  
flower show in Europe



In bloom: The rose grown to celebrate 200 years of The Times

arations on site on the Wednesday or Thursday before the preview date on Monday. The plant exhibits you will see on site will have come from nothing to near perfection in less than a week. The only exceptions are those gardens which are formed on the rock bank outside the main marquee, which have a few extra days. Take a look at some of the stands and consider the ingenuity and skill required to produce, in a few short days, a display which manages to look as though it has been there for ever.

Rose stands are always good value despite a shortage of light and a distinct lack of warmth this spring. Each year there are a large number of new roses, some of which will stand the passage of time better than others.

Dickson's Nurseries are introducing three new varieties this year. The first was the President's International Trophy winner for 1984 called Anisley Dickson, a salmon pink floribunda from Coventry Cathedral x Memento. With its dark green foliage and pointed flower buds. The second is Pseudocera, a pale primrose HT rose, a good variety which could appeal to gardeners as well as to the exhibitor. The third is Wishing, a peach and pink floribunda with a yellow throat and dark foliage.

Another anniversary this year is the centenary of The Lady magazine and

Fryers, the Cheshire rose firm, have produced a yellow floribunda. It has an attractive colour and good foliage and I think it will be seen in our gardens for many years.

Bees of Chester have Felicity Kendal as a rich scarlet-rose HT rose. With its dark green foliage and delightful shape, this is one for exhibition as well as the garden.

One of the most popular house plants is the African violet and Tony Clements is one of the finest growers. His nursery in King's Lynn prepares all the plants for his Chelsea exhibit with double, singles and dwarfs as well as the whole colour range. He is offering £1,000 to anyone who can produce a

yellow Saintpaulia; this has to be an undyed flower. Blooms of Bressingham will display many shrubs, but there will be more than a few herbaceous plants to ring the changes. Look for Golden Medallion, one of the new hostas available, and *Polygonatum odoratum variegatum* which is, as its name suggest, a coloured leaved plant.

Not all the exhibits at the show are organic. Machinery and equipment suppliers are there in force, this being one of the few times when almost every piece of equipment for the garden can be seen in one place. In the mower lines, the Qualcast and Flymo machines have much to offer at a reasonable price, while at a higher price the Victa Vortex, the quietest rotary mower I know, is also excellent value.

Tools are constantly being brought up to date. Wolf Tools have two new items of interest, a multi-change handle which takes six clip-on tools, and the Sow Master, which has clip-on heads to allow different sizes of seed to be sown without bending. Fertiliser spreading is rarely carried out properly, but a new Fisons machine will now carry out the task accurately and has an automatic cut-off at the ends of the rows.

● The Times Rose will be available in the autumn, when Times readers will be able to take advantage of a special offer.

The Chelsea Flower Show is in the gardens of the Royal Hospital Chelsea, Royal Hospital Road, London SW3. Open to RHS members only on Tues, 8am-5pm; then to the public on Wed 8am-5pm, tickets £10; Thurs 8am-5pm, £8; Fri 8am-5pm, £5. Further information from the Royal Horticultural Society, Horticultural Hall, Vincent Square, London SW1 (01-834 4333).

## EATING OUT

## Pick of the bunch for the wilting

Stan Hey suggests some reviving restaurants for the show's visitors



The Chelsea Flower Show has restaurants in the area of Pimlico Road and Sloane Square eagerly anticipating a rush of customers. While the rush is easy to predict, the exact nature of the customers is more difficult to assess. Rightly or wrongly, I imagine them as predominantly straightforward, middle-aged rural types with gardens of their own, rather than urban sophisticates who only have a window-box to cultivate.

In truth, either species of Chelsea visitor would feel at home in The English Garden Restaurant, situated in a quiet, elegant house just off the King's Road, opposite the Duke of York's barracks. The front room of the house is rather formal in decor and atmosphere, with rich fabrics suggesting the dining room of a country manor. At the rear, however, a second room is presented as a modish, tiled conservatory, filled with mirrors and canvases.

The potted fuchsias on the tables, and copious greenery in and above the conservatory, allow further floral talking points while you study the restaurant's attractive and stimulating menu. Like its companion restaurant, The English House in Milner Street, The English Garden draws on a number of historically researched recipes, though here there is a greater emphasis on more modern dishes, with touches of French flair in cooking and presentation.

Among the first courses are fashionable deep-fried parcels - here christened "favors" - filled with ham or brie (£3.75), the ubiquitous vegetable terrine in tomato coulis (£3.25) and the current French rave, the scallop salad (£6.25) which the English Garden embellishes with a chunk of crab when a little more salad would be appreciated.

Less derivative choices include a chicken and wild mushroom "patty" (£4) which is supposed to arrive folded under "crisp leaves of pastry". Mine simply wore a pastry hat, but was very good nevertheless, helped by a light, creamy sauce and tender strips of chicken. You may have noticed by now that the Garden's prices are not exactly modest, but there are good soups - one hot, one cold - available at "just" £2.50. The



Food and fuchsias: The English Garden Restaurant

hot soup on my visit was curried cream of turnip and the chilled one melon and mango.

While the main courses will continue to alarm your wallet, they are generally ambitious and expert enough to justify their costs. The rack of lamb Oxford John (or Oxford Don as I misread it at first) arrives cooked precisely to order, neatly trimmed and freed from the bones, and enhanced by a light sauce of shallots, thyme and parsley.

Other attractive choices include the breast of chicken, stuffed with a mousse of sage and onion and deep-fried, braised wild duck in madeira sauce (£9.25) and what, to judge from the praise echoing around me, is a real prize-winner - fillets of turbot and salmon, wrapped in pastry and served in two sauces, crayfish and basil.

If plainer food is your fancy, one of the "pastry pies" is well worth trying - perhaps a rich filling of beef, red wine, mushrooms and Guinness, topped by a perfect puff-pastry lid. Vegetables are extra at £2.25 for a selection, but they are

nice cooked and attractively presented, with the haricots verts tied with a strip of bacon. English farmhouse cheese, the dark chocolate pudding and the apple and blackberry pie with clotted cream are the pick of the final courses, and little touches like home-made oatcake biscuits and chunks of Yorkshire fudge with the coffee will make you feel you have had your money's worth.

At Eaton's, about 10 minutes' walk from the show back towards Victoria (handy for the coach station), you will feel you have had your money's worth provided you are good at doing VAT returns. The menu in this cramped but homely restaurant does not show the tax in the prices, which may leave you wondering exactly what the chicken brochette with mushrooms and bacon, listed at £4.75, is really going to cost. (Answer: £5.46.)

This silly practice is likely to prove the only irritation however, since Eaton's is a well-meaning, unpretentious establishment where the food fulfils the menu's promise.

Herring filets, smoked cod roes on toast with poached eggs, tender veal escalopes (with mushrooms, shallots, cream and white wine), fillet mignon of pork with grapes and sweet and sour sauce, are all wholesome echoes of the pre-nouvelle regime.

The bilinis (pancakes) with smoked salmon and sour cream (3.50, or £4.02 including VAT), are almost a meal in themselves, and for lighter choices it may pay to look at their weekly à la carte for soups (lentil and watercress) and appetizers (cold mixture, flavoured with olives and anchovies). Pork escalope filled with red cabbage and raisins is a long-standing favourite. Although plainer tastes are catered for by grilled lamb cutlets and Scotch fillet steaks. Good live carolers of French wine will help "water the garden".

## RESTAURANTS

The English Garden, 10 Lincoln Street, London SW3 (01-584 7272). Open: Mon-Sat 12.30-2.30pm and 7.30-11.30pm; Sun 12.30-2pm and 7.30-10pm.

Eaton's, 49 Elizabeth Street, London SW1 (01-730 0074). Open: Mon-Fri noon-2pm (last orders) and 7-11.15pm (last orders).

Ebury Wine Bar, 139 Ebury Street, London SW1 (01-730 5447). Open: Mon-Sat 11am-2am and 1.30-11pm; Sun 12pm-2pm and 7-10.30pm. Stylish and atmospheric wine bar which has just celebrated its 25th anniversary. An enterprising selection of hot and cold French food is generally available to accompany their respected wines.

Como Lario, 22 Holborn Place, London SW1 (01-730 2954). Open: Mon-Sat 12.15pm-2.30pm and 6.30pm-11.30pm. Cheerful and bustling Italian restaurant with a familiar but usually well-executed range of dishes - piccata al limone, spaghetti vongole.

## View of a classic landscape

At the heart of Lord Burlington's Garden, created in 1717 around Chiswick House in London, is a short avenue of urns and sphinxes leading to a curved niche of clipped yew called the Exedra (sitting place). Here stands three Roman figures, Censor, Pompey and Cicero, their faces washed by long exposure to the elements.

The view back along the avenue toward the house, framed by the sprawling blue-green branches of huge cedar trees, engenders a feeling of classical perfection. Tucked to one side and sunk into the ground almost out of sight is a small, terraced amphitheatre. Here sits a temple, its squat dome just clearing the crowns of the surrounding cedars. Beyond the temple and across a created serpentine river is a mature woodland whose floor is a mass of brambles, ivy and cuckoo-pint, thrusting up elongated and cowed flower spikes.

From the Exedra three allees, flanked by clipped yew grown thin and sparse with age, flare out through similar woods offering surprising glimpses of distant sculpture and classical buildings. Trees, water, sky and suddenly-revealed vistas are the essential ingredients of the English landscape garden at the beginning of the 18th century. By 1718 Stephen Switzer had grasped these elements and

Michael Young visits two gardens which borrow from Italy for their romance

could write in *Ichographia Rustica*: "... the motion of Trees and the fluctuations of Waters, give a more exalted kind of Pleasure".

The importance of the garden at Chiswick House, however, lies in the way it recreates a classical idyll through an evocation of an Italian landscape. It is an audacious conceit, learned by Burlington from the paintings of two artists, Claude Lorrain and Salvator Rosa, whom he must have met when travelling in Italy.

Burlington was a great patron of the arts and the very epitome of the refined 18th-century gentleman, surrounding himself with a select and educated coterie. Being a friend of Pope and Addison, he was almost

## GARDEN NOTES

Chiswick House, Burlington Lane, London, (01-570 7727 ex 3115), between Great West Road and Great Chertsey Road. Open daily, 8.45am-6.30pm. Castle Howard, near York, North Yorkshire (01638 383). Open daily until end of Oct; 10.30am-6pm.

certainly familiar with the radical views of gardening, expressed in publications such as the *Spectator*.

Today Burlington would hardly recognize his garden, so overgrown and coarse has it become. Even the ha-ha is shrouded from view beneath a great thicket of rhododendrons. Yet many of the garden's original elements can still be found.

There is an old map of 1736 which shows paths meandering through the woods. The design is not that much different from those published by Switzer, whose writings endorsed the basic tenets of the English landscape style - surprise and artifice in accord with nature.

The principles that applied at Chiswick House were also those paramount at Castle Howard in the north of England, where Vanbrugh created for the Earl of Carlisle an architectural masterpiece. Carlisle himself planned the garden with immense bravado, using classical buildings at key points throughout the landscape. It is Chiswick House writ large, a whole landscape contrived and conceived in a Claudian style, a style fashioned by poets, writers and painters as much as by gardeners, eclectic yet home grown, using as it does the lush greenness not to be found in the heat of the Mediterranean.



Ageless face: A sphinx in Burlington's garden

## COLLECTING

## A flair for horticultural harmony

Isabelle Anscombe on the art of planning landscapes and gardens



A successful garden designer requires a curious blend of talents - sound horticultural knowledge, an eye for the harmony of colour and texture, a feeling for the wide open spaces of landscape, a flair for architecture, a sympathy with the weather and an unwavering belief in the future. British garden design has varied from the intricacy of Elizabethan knot-gardens, to the grand pastoral and architectural schemes of the 18th century, to the cosy "cottage" gardens of Edwardian days.

The history of garden design has been documented prin-

pally through the grandiose - and so, less ephemeral - architectural schemes that have survived: gardens tending to be recorded for posterity once they had reached maturity rather than at the planning stage.

Views of gardens have always been popular, especially of the spacious grounds of the stately homes of England: Richard Green has prints by various 18th-century publishers of such grounds as Ranelagh, Stowe, Kew Gardens or Hampton Court for between £180 and £450. Christopher Wood's sixth annual exhibition of Victorian and Edwardian paintings and watercolours of gardens and flowers includes a watercolour by George Samuel Elgood of Melbourne, Derbyshire, for £350.

An enormously popular painter, Elgood painted the flowers, walks, yew hedges and topiary of such ambitious country house gardens as Penrhos, Crathes Castle, Levens and Montacute; during his lifetime he exhibited regularly at the Fine Art Society and published a collection of his work in *Some English Gardens*, with notes by Gertrude Jekyll. Ben Weinreb has the book for sale at £95, while Elgood's delicate watercolours, when they come on the market, fetch up to £3,000. But, while immensely attractive, such views reveal little about the detailed planning of such landscapes and gardens.

Perhaps the most interesting of the exhibitions organized to coincide with the Chelsea Flower Show is Jardins et Interieurs Modernes at Marina Henderson, which includes a collection of actual designs as well as drawings and rough sketches executed between 1912 and 1919 by the French



Artists' impression: A drawing by the Vera brothers

designers André and Paul Vera. Of the two brothers, the painter and designer Paul Vera is better known; he designed ceramics for Sévres, murals for the liner *le de France* and tapestries for Beauvais and in 1912 was invited to exhibit in the second "Blau Reiter" show in Munich.

The majority of the plans are from a book, *Le Nouveau Jardin*, which the Vera brothers published in 1912: there are 40 in all, priced from £150 to £650. There is, however, a slight mystery as to the number of hands involved: the book also credits a Eugene Verdaud, which could be merely a pseudonym, except that the sketches in the portfolio certainly show several different personalities at work. Some are detailed plans for specific formal gardens - for example, a river, tennis courts and an

aerodrome surround a château which must have been an actual commission or site. Others are accomplished, brooding drawings of cloister-like walkways covered by arched trees, ending in still, dark pools open to the sky.

There are painted vignettes of gardens which, from the colouring and landscape, would seem to belong in the south of France and which, in execution, show a fine understanding of Cubism, and also prettier drawings of statuary, garden seats and trellises with Art Deco-style roses or apple trees shaped like goblets, somewhat similar to the highly stylized garden designs produced by the Wiener Werkstatte in Austria at this time.

The drawings show little interest in an architectural style that might accompany the gardens, nor of any detailed horticultural knowledge, but there are common themes throughout - a fine sense of space and vista, a formality of layout-out of the beds, hedges and walks, and a love of statuary, all of which reflect Paul Vera's other interests in the decorative arts. It is a fascinating discovery and a welcome change from the current obsession with cosy Edwardian gardens.

## Messages from the architectural interior

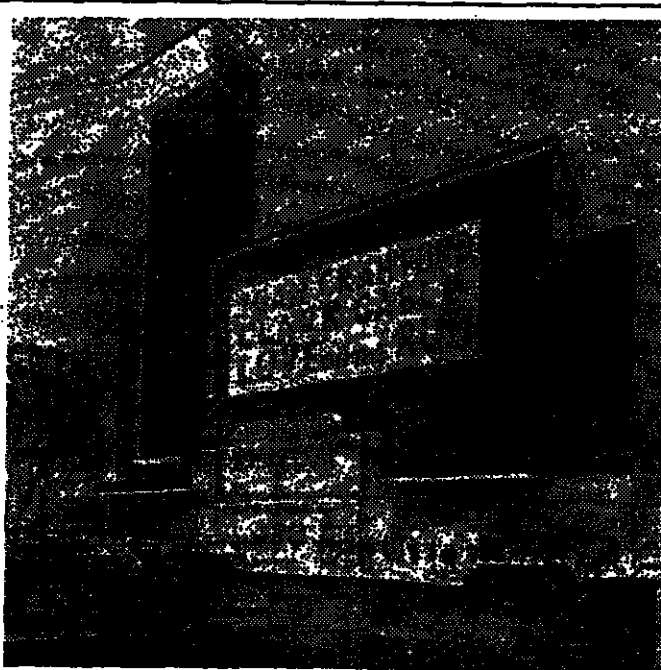
There is a strong element of the lost and found in the matter of collecting architectural drawings, as Sotheby's preparations for its annual sale indicate. Whenever a named building comes up, Haydn Williams rushes off a letter to the occupants suggesting they place a bid. "Local councils, country houses, there's nothing we don't try," he says.

This is not to say that architectural drawings are difficult to sell. In the last five years, the small international band of collectors has become a force to be reckoned with. The main problem is that people in possession of these drawings are loath to part with them both for sentimental reasons and because the prices have not risen enough to break down all resistance. There are so few architectural drawings around that Sotheby's can only master one sale a year, coming up on Thursday, Christie's, the only other auction house to dabble in architectural drawings, is in the habit of having a sale in the winter, but this year will have an extra, small one on July 9.

Architectural drawings come in three categories: the undated might think these are dry, dry and driest. Admittedly, the straight groundplans are an acquired taste, appealing as Williams says to those "seriously interested in the evolution of buildings". If the building has a famous name, however, it is likely to have an interesting history.

The drawings, for example, of the projected facade for the Hotel de San Florimio in Paris are by Gabriel, the architect of Le Petit Trianon, because no one could decide on an internal layout for the building, the facade was originally erected with nothing behind it, near the Place de la Concorde.

Sotheby's architectural drawings auction, May 23, 2.30pm, George Street Gallery, 1 George Street, WC1 (Tel: 493 8080). Viewing 8.30am, Mon 8.30am-5pm, Sale Tues 11am.



Now showing: Leicester Square Odeon by Andrew Mather

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The quill-drawn plans are immaculately executed and estimated at £10,000 to £15,000.

The second category is the drawing of the interior. These are sought after by professional interior decorators eager to find tips to authenticity. Most are by amateurs, as with the charming rendition of the Staircase Hall, Burton Constable, dated c1760.

The artist has managed to obtain a perspective effect with

the walls, causing them to recede towards a vanishing point. When it comes to the carpet, however, she clearly was so preoccupied delineating every swirl, that the floor appears to rise as a separate, vertical backdrop, with the furniture floating in front. The estimate is £1,500 to £2,000.

Other interiors include a professional watercolour of a man in his study by Gottfried Seelos, estimated at £600 to £800. Here, apart from accurately documenting the room, an element of human enigma is introduced. Who is the man seated at the desk with his back to the viewer, and what is the significance of the white top hat on the table?

Architectural studios often employ professionals to produce favourable artists' impressions of a building to impress the client, and this category of drawing is perhaps the most attractive of all. The watercolour by Andrew Mather of the Odeon, Leicester Square, in 1937 is a racy reflection of the period, with gangster cars purring past and the bright light of the picture house bouncing off the watery tarmac. It also has a joke for film buffs: cinema advertisements Clark Gable and Joan Crawford in *Traffant's Love on the Run*. The estimate is between £400 and £600.

For those with £200 to £400 to spare, however, there are many attractive pictures of buildings often unidentified, such as "Interior of a Norman Church" by Henry Parke, Sir John Soane's secretary and pupil.

Sarah Jane Checkland

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## AUCTIONS

FINE OLD MASTERS: Old Master paintings including a number of fine French examples, come up for sale. The most interesting is Ambrosius Benson's "Loretta", which belonged to Cardinal Fesch, Napoleon's uncle. Benson was a Belgian artist and a master of half-figure paintings (estimate £25,000 to £30,000). Also in this sale is a very good "Portrait of a Nobleman" by the Studio of Pierre Mignard, and a

small "Still Life in a Room" by Ambrosius Bosschaert the younger (£40,000-£60,000) on copper. Philip, Bonhams Street, London W1 (01-529 8822). Viewing today 8.30am, Mon 8.30am-5pm, Sale Tues 11am.

PAPER MACHE AND TOLEWARE: A large selection, almost 100 lots, of those Victorian crafts are included in this sale, varying from trays, chairs, tables, tea-caddies and other furnishing objects. 85 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 (01-581 7811). Viewing Mon 9am-7pm, Tues 9am-4.30pm. Sale Wed 10.30am.

KING'S MISTRESS: A magnificent diamond necklace reputed to have been given by George IV to his mistress Elizabeth, Lady Conyngham, goes under the hammer on Thurs. Sent to Sotheby's by her descendant the present Marquess of Conyngham, it is estimated to fetch between £100,000 and £150,000. The sale of jewels for collectors includes work signed by Giuliano, Marilio, Castellani and Ernestino Rinaldi. Sotheby's, 34-35 New Bond Street, London W1 (01-493 8080). Viewing Mon-Wed 9.30am-4pm. Sale Thurs 10.30am and 2.30pm.

WESTERNIZED JAPAN: The Westernization of Japan was begun by Portuguese traders in 1543, shortly followed by St Francis Xavier whose Christian followers fought an unequal struggle for survival. The 18th-century Japanese lacquer portable Christian shrine up for sale on Wed is a rare survival from this period and included in a fascinating sale. Christie's, 8 King Street, London SW1 (01-839 8080). Viewing Mon and Tues 9.30am-4pm. Sale Wed 2.30pm.

Geraldine Norman













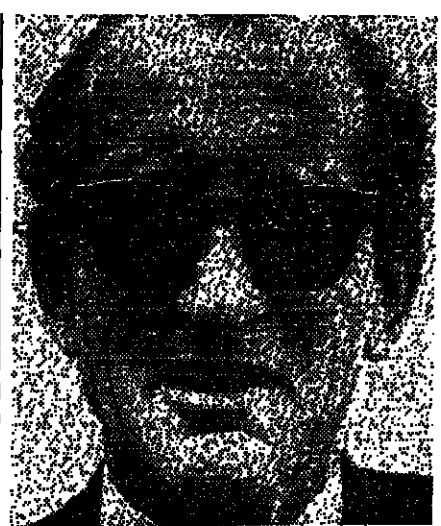


## THE WEEK AHEAD



## OPERA

● **DRAMATIC DEBUT:** Maria Ewing from Detroit, Michigan, dazzled British opera-goers seven years ago with her Dorabella in *Così fan tutte* at Glyndebourne. This year she is back singing her first *Carmen*. Then, as now, her director is Sir Peter Hall; this time he is also her husband. Glyndebourne details: Opera, page 19.



## BOOKS

● **TALE OF TWO SISTERS:** Antony Lambton, the former peer, anchors his first novel in the last years of tsarist Russia, blending fiction with hitherto untranslated new evidence about the fate of the Romanovs. *Elizabeth and Alexandra* (Quartet Books, £10.95) were the daughters of the Grand Duke of Hesse.



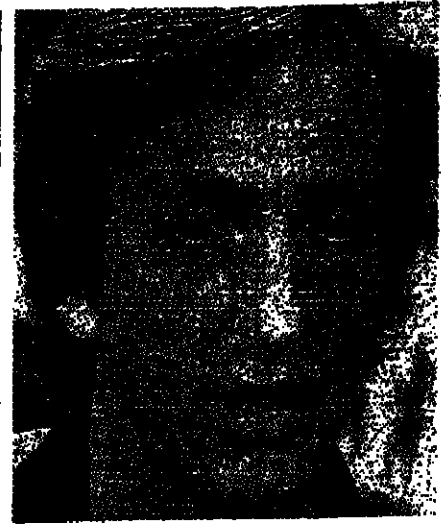
## CONCERTS

● **BLAST OF BRASS:** Wynton Marsalis, the virtuoso trumpeter, is equally at home with jazz and the classics. On Thursday he will play Hummel's Trumpet Concerto and Purcell's *Indian Queen* with the London Symphony Orchestra under Myung Whun Chung, Barbican Centre, London EC2 (01-628 8795) 7.30pm.



## THEATRE

● **FEIFFER'S AMERICA:** Jules Feiffer's trenchant cartoon history of modern America with Jimmy the Cloud (above), The Sundance Kid and Happy Hooligan; any resemblance to Presidents Carter, Kennedy and Ford is purely intentional. The Donmar Warehouse, London WC2 (01-379 5565) from Fri.



## TELEVISION

● **DOWN-UNDER DOCUMENTARY:** John Pilger, globe-trotting observer of the human condition, looks at the Aborigines of his native Australia. Hunted, slaughtered and sent into limbo when the white man first arrived, these first Australians are fighting back. *The Secret Country*, ITV, Tues, 10.30-11.30pm.



## GALLERIES

● **NASTY BUT NICE:** Francis Bacon has his second retrospective at the Tate Gallery. Now aged 76, the enfant terrible, who is no longer considered terrible, provides a celebration of the visual nasty, with paintings of flesh (both living and dead), contortion and grimaces. Tate Gallery, Millbank (01-821 1313) from Wed.

## ARTS DIARY

## Barbie's toy boy

"Barbie the goddess. She reflects all the great western values without dictating them", pronounces Billy Boy, 25, the flamboyant Paris-based couturier who mounted last year's successful Elsa Schiaparelli exhibition at the Pompidou Centre. Billy Boy, a self-confessed Barbiophile who numbers his collection of Barbie dolls "in the thousands" has put together the most glittering retrospective in the doll's 26-year history.

Beginning in Paris on Tuesday, 450 Barbie dolls will embark on a month-long tour of France. More than 65 top fashion designers have donated 250 miniature replicas of their creations to her trousseau. Yves St Laurent alone contributed 16. Among the British contributors are Scott Croft, Monica Chong and Stephen Jones. The other 200 dolls will be dressed in authentic clothes from Barbie's own wardrobe.

What will this year's Barbie wear? Billy Boy's own version of the celebrated mini-mannequin has just gone on sale in France in dark glasses, gold chains, a black dress with black fingernails to match.

## Legal lashing

London theatre audiences are evidently considered a heartier bunch than their New York cousins. In the first new theatre to be built in the East End for 100 years - the Half Moon Theatre - the current production of Stephen Sondheim's musical *Sweeney Todd* has allowed us to hear the number of the self-flagellating judge, cut from the New York run for fear of offending the Broadway matinee matrons.

## Brought to book

What have Livia Gollancz, Julian Ashby of Macmillan, Simon Master of Pan and André Deutsch in common, in addition to being leading London publishers? They all appear in walk-on parts, not necessarily as victims or suspects, in Canadian publisher Anna Porter's first thriller *Hidden Agenda*, just published.



Gollancz and Deutsch in Canada. The novel is set in the less than jet-setting international publishing world, and the search is on to find who is bumping off the world's great publishers. A disgruntled author perhaps? Neither the American nor United Kingdom rights have yet been sold, which may be significant.

## Novel support

On Monday *The Times* revealed that a commando of the terrorist organization Sendero Luminoso had been captured with a hit-list headed by Mario Vargas Llosa, the prize-winning Peruvian author. Vargas Llosa, in London for the publication of his new novel *The War of the End of the World*, was rung up later in the day by a member of the group, "don't worry", he was told. "We may hate what you say and what you stand for, but you are a good writer. There are not many good writers in Peru so you will be OK."

## Strange customs

Sotheby's have had a busy week vandalising their own glossy catalogues for the sale of Japanese prints and drawings on Wednesday. One lot consists of 12 erotic paintings. "Although we photographed the most modest one", says David Macfarlane of the auction house, "none of our Japanese clients has received a catalogue. They must have got caught in customs". Despite bemusement at such censorship by the country that produced the work, Sotheby's business sense soon came to the fore. The 100 catalogues were sent off again last week, the offending page removed.

## Hollywood hero in search of a role



**Harrison Ford in real life bears little resemblance to his screen characters, as Joan Goodman found**

Anyone expecting Harrison Ford to be a real-life version of Indiana Jones or Han Solo, characters he played in *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and *Star Wars*, is doomed to disappointment. If anything he is probably closer to John Book, his role in his new film *Witness*.

But even that is not the essential Ford, who prefers to keep himself under wraps. "People have a pretty good idea of some of the characters I've played", says Ford. "They don't have any idea who I am. That's a situation I encourage". A tall, laconic man with pale hair and pale eyes and a somewhat sardonic grin, Ford does not resist stardom but he would like it on his own terms.

Like many film personalities, Harrison Ford has always thought of himself as a serious actor. He now has the credentials to prove it. In *Witness*, directed by Australian Peter Weir, Ford plays John Book, a tough Philadelphia cop who is called in to investigate a drug-linked murder of a fellow police officer. The only witness to the killing is an eight-year-old Amish boy who is passing through the city with his young, widowed mother.

When the tendrils of the crime reach to the highest levels of police corruption, John Book is forced to flee the city with the boy and his mother. He takes refuge in their home in the Amish community in Pennsylvania. It is there that the heart of the film - the contrast between the pastoral, old-fashioned simple ways of the Amish and the violence, sophisticated world of the city cop - plays itself out.

"The film has a moral context", says Ford. "That's something that few films bother about these days. It gives an impact that the audience can experience along with the characters. It is an emotional rather than an intellectual film and I think that's more appropriate to the medium." Ford attached himself to the project early on. The script, he says, came to him from out of the blue. "When I read scripts I'm looking for something different every time but I'm mostly looking for something great. Something that makes me want to do it."

In his own words Ford "doesn't have to do a damn thing". He's made his name and a considerable fortune via a percentage in five of the six most profitable films in history. The third Indiana Jones film goes before the cameras in January and Ford says he won't do another. "Not for all the tea in China", he says.

Weir was Ford's choice for director. "He's very capable of working with tension. He uses it the way other people use violence. He can establish tension with a glance." Improvisation has become something of a Ford trademark. There is, for example, the famous scene in *Raiders of the Lost Ark* where Indiana Jones meets an Arab swordsman. "It was meant to be the ultimate confrontation between whip and sword", recalls Ford, "but I had dysentery and there were four pages of script. I went to Steven (Spielberg) and I said 'the hell with it, let's just shoot it.' The result was the funniest scene in the film. Ford laughs enjoying the memory. It is the kind of input he wants.

and he worked mainly in television doing small parts in series like *Gunslinger* and *The FBI*. He stopped after a few years "because I didn't want to burn myself out before I had a chance to make feature films". He taught himself carpentry and supported himself that way for eight years. He picked up three or four good acting roles during that time, one of which was in *American Graffiti*. Its director, George Lucas, remembered him when casting for *Star Wars*.

Success had a price. Ford paid with his 17-year marriage. In 1981 he married his second wife, Melissa Mathison, who wrote the screenplay for *E.T.* and they live a semi-reclusive life. He hates Hollywood events, prefers to eat at home and likes nothing better than to putter in the garden. Hardly Indiana Jones!

"Indiana Jones is not Harrison", says director Steven Spielberg. "We created that personality for him. What's so amazing about him is that on the street you will not recognize him. He becomes the character he's playing and afterwards he stops being that character and becomes himself. I think his magic is that he is a very accessible, common guy."

Ford's self-evaluation is in line with Spielberg's judgement but director Peter Weir found something more distinctive. "He's an enormously likeable man and I was impressed with his lack of interest in showbusiness and power and status. He is for me in the great tradition of Hollywood heroes - the strong silent type. I feel that we are yet to see his best work."

Ford is not given to philosophizing about himself. He takes a craftsman's pride in his work and would like to continue to work in films that stretch him and engage his intelligence. "I've never had a focused ambition", he says. "I don't think or plan far ahead. I just make the most of any opportunity I have."

Witness (15) opens in London on Fri at the Plaza (01-437 1234).

© Times Newspapers

## IN PREVIEW

**DANCE OF DEATH:** Alan Bates and Frances de la Tour in August Strindberg's cogent dissection of a festering marriage, in a new translation by Ted Whitehead. With Michael Byrne and Anne Louise Lambert; directed by Keith Hack. Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, London W8 (01-748 3364). Previews from Thurs, opens May 30. Tues-Sun, no performance Mon. Until July 7.

**BREAKING THE SILENCE:** Stephen Pollakoff's play, originally presented at The Pit, with Alan Howard and Jenny Agutter joining Gemma Jones for the first production. Mermade Theatre, Puddledock, London EC4 (01-236 5568). Previews Mon-Sat at 7.30pm; matinees Thurs and Sat at 3pm. Opens May 28 at 7pm. Then as previews.

**STRIPPERS:** Tyne Wear Theatre Company production of a Peter Terson play about women who turn to striptease as a means of balancing their household budgets. Lynda Bellingham, Bill Maynard head a cast directed by John Blackmore. Phoenix Theatre, Charing Cross Road, London WC2 (01-336 8611). Previews Mon-Sat at 7.45pm; matinees Thurs at 3pm, Sat at 4.30pm. Opens May 29 at 7pm. Then as previews.

## OPENINGS

**IN THE BELLY OF THE BEAST:** Weston Bridge Theatre of Chicago, featuring William L. Petersen. A study of the convicted murderer and reformed Jack Henry Abbott, whose correspondence with Norman Mailer formed the basis of a best-selling book. Part of American Festival '85. Lyric Studio, King Street, Hammersmith, London W6 (01-741 2311). Previews Tues, Wed at 8pm, opens Thurs at 7pm. Until June 1, Mon-Sat at 8pm.



**THE CORN IS GREEN:** Deborah Kerr (above), Allan Cuthbertson, George Wimber, Elizabeth Counsell, Imelda Staunton, Robert Hale, directed by Frith Banbury, in a new production of Emlyn Williams's autobiographical play, about a boy from a Welsh mining valley. The Old Vic, Waterloo Road, London SW1 (01-828 7816). Preview Tues at 7.30pm, opens Wed at 7pm. Until June 29, Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 7.45pm; matinees Wed at 2.30pm, Sat at 4pm.

**MARK TWAIN TONIGHT:** A one-man show, a selection from the life and works of Twain by Hal Holbrook who, in the course of performing it over 30 years and more, has won a Tony Award and visits six countries with the show this year, the 75th anniversary of Twain's death. Part of American Festival '85. Bloomsbury Theatre, Gordon Street, London WC1 (01-387 8629/01-380 1453). Thurs and Fri only at 8pm.

**WASTE:** Judi Dench and Daniel Massey are joined by Sara Kestelman, Charles Kay, David Waller and Tony Church in Harley Granville Barker's 1907 study of a politician who falls from grace through scandal. John Barton directs. Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1 (01-437 3686). Previews Wed at 7.30pm, Thurs at 7.30pm and 7.30pm. Opens Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.15pm; matinees Thurs at 3pm.

## SELECTED

**OLD TIMES:** Haymarket (01-430 5532). Mon-Sat at 7.30pm; matinees Wed at 3pm, Sat at 4.30pm. A splendid revival of Harold Pinter's three-hander about shared nostalgia reawakening old rivalries. With Michael Gambon, Nicola Pagett, Ly Ulmann.

## ON YOUR TOES

**Palace (01-437 6834).** Mon-Sat at 7.45pm; matinees Thurs and Sat at 2.30pm. Doreen Wells leads in this appealing revival of the 1936 Rodgers and Hart musical. Theatre: Martin Cropper. Films: Geoff Brown. Galleries: Sarah Jane Cheek. Photography: Michael Young. Bookings: Anse Whitehouse.

## THEATRE

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**RICHARD III:** Barbican (01-628 8795/633 8891). Mon and Tues at 7.30pm. In repertory.

**ANTHONY AND JOAN:** In a mesmeric performance as the "bottled spider" finds adult support in Patricia Routledge, Malcolm Storry and Penelope Beaumont.

**PRAYDA:** Olivier (01-928 2252). Fri at 7.15pm. In repertory. David Hare and Howard Brenton's near-the-knuckle account of the rise of a ruthless colonial newspaper magnate provides Anthony Hopkins with a gem of a role.

**TOM AND VIV:** Royal Court (01-730 1745). Until May 25. Mon-Sat at 8pm; matinee Sat at 4pm. Michael Hastings's well-staged and often funny account of T.S. Eliot's disastrous first marriage elicits a riveting performance from Ed Hearnian as the poet.

**TWO INTO ONE:** Shaftesbury (01-379 5399). Mon-Fri at 8pm, Sat at 5.30 and 8.30pm; matinees Wed at 3pm. Ray Cooney's riotous farce of marital misunderstanding involving a philandering politician. A new cast includes Anton Rodgers, Michael Williams and Kathy Staff.

**WILD HONEY:** Lyttelton (01-928 2252). Today, Mon-Wed at 7.45pm; matinees today, Tues, Wed at 2.30pm. In repertory. Last staged as *Platonov*, Chekhov's delicate early comedy emerges as a lovely masterpiece in its own right, thanks to Michael Frayn's translation and Christopher Morahan's production with Ian McKellen at its centre.

## OUT OF TOWN

**CHICHESTER:** Festival Theatre, Okehampton, Chichester, West Sussex (0243 781312). Anthony and Cleopatra. Wed and Thurs at 8.30pm, matinees Thurs at 2.30pm. Diana Rigg and Denis Quilley in a new production.

**LEICESTER:** Haymarket, Belgrave Gate (0533 539797). The London Cuckoos. Until June 1, Mon-Thurs at 7.30pm, Fri and Sat at 8pm; matinees Sat at 4.45pm. John Byrnes has adapted the 17th century comedy by Edward Ravenscroft, after it radically on the suggestion of Stuart Burge, who produced it successfully at the Royal Court a few years ago, and who directs it again now.

**MANCHESTER:** Royal Exchange, St Ann's Square (021 333 8833). Entertaining Mr. Sloane by Joe Orton. Until June 23, Mon and Tues at 7.30pm, Wed-Sat at 8pm; matinees Wed at 2.30pm, Sat at 4pm. Adam Ant is Mr. Sloane in this new production of Orton's black comedy, directed by Greg Hersov with Sylvia Syme and James Maxwell.

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## FILMS

## OPENINGS

**A PRIVATE CONVERSATION (PG):** An intimate, psychological drama from the Soviet director Nikita Mikhalkov, best known for subtle literary adaptations, with Irina Kupchenko and Mikhail Ulyanov as a former couple exposing their memories and fears during one talkative night. From Fri at the Phoenix, East Finchley (01-883 2233).

**WILD GESEES II (15):** An American TV station, anxious to accept the universe with a Rudolf Hess interview, employs world-famous mercenaries to steal the old Nazi from Spandau. Comic-strip larks, directed by Peter Hunt, with Laurence Olivier as Hess, Edward Fox (replacing Richard Burton). From Fri at the Warner (01-439 0791), ABC Farnham Road (01-370 2110), ABC Edgware Road (01-723 5901), ABC Bayswater (01-228 6620).

## SELECTED

**THE GREY FOX (PG):** Screen on the Hill (01-435 3366). Leisurely, engaging Canadian film about the legendary bandit Bill Miner, finding his way in the 20th century after half a lifetime in San Quentin prison. Stuntman-turned-actor Richard Farnworth beautifully conveys the character's rogues' dignity.

**STARMAN (PG):** Leicester Square Theatre (01-430 5252). Romance, comedy, science-fiction spectacle. John Carpenter's new film weaves them all into an unoriginal plot that pleasurably puts characters first and special effects second. Jeff Bridges stars as the bemused alien discovering human habits and feelings.

## GALLERIES

## OPENINGS

**TOLLY COBOLD:** The fifth annual exhibition sponsored by the Tollemach and Cobbold families, is pepped up this year by incentive of a new Vladimir Vodka award of £6,000. Paintings, drawings, constructions chosen out of 2,000 entries by a panel of artists headed by the art historian Norbert Lynton. Award winners of Vladimir and the Anglia Folio Award will be announced at the opening. Fitzwilliam Museum, Trumpington Street, Cambridge (0223 695911). From today until June 23. Tues-Sat 10am-4.55pm, Sun 2.15-4.55pm.

**A SALUTE TO BRITISH SURREALISM:** Represents all the British artists who contributed to the First International Surrealist exhibition of 1936 organized by

Roland Penrose (above). Chance to assess the British contribution to the movement of the 1930s usually

credited to Europe and the United States. Work by Nash, Wadsworth and Agar, and lesser-known artists such as Pailthorpe and Bridgewater. Blond Fine Art, 22 Princes Street, London W1 (01-437 1230). From Wed until June 22, Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10am-1pm.

**OXFORDSHIRE VISUAL ARTS WEEK:** Enlightened project whereby about 200 studios, workshops and exhibition spaces will be open for artists and public to meet. From Fri until June 2. For information visit or ring the Education Room, Museum of Modern Art, Pembroke Street, Oxford (0865 722733).

**ALICE AYCOCK, LOUISE BOURGEOIS:** American Festival show of drawings and sculpture by two artists who have received wide acclaim in the United States and Europe. The Serpentine Gallery, Kensington Gardens, London W2 (01-402 6075). From today until June 23. Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat and Sun 10am-7pm.

**HIGHLIGHTS OF HOGARTH'S ART:** National Gallery of Scotland, The Mound, Edinburgh (031 558 8921). Until July 4, Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm. Thirty-one entertaining prints by the 18th-century English artist and satirist, from the museum's extensive holdings. Includes complete sets of "A Harlot's Progress" and "Marriage à la Mode".

**HOMAGE TO THE SQUARE:** Gimpel Fils, 30 Davies Street, London W1 (01-483 2488). Until June 1, Mon-Fri 9.30am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm. Famous series of paintings by Josef Albers, the pioneer abstract artist who started at the Bauhaus and ended up teaching at Yale. Each work investigates the interaction of colours within compositions comprising squares.

**CELTIC SPLENDOR:** Pym's Gallery, 13 Motcomb Street, London SW1 (01-235 3050). Until May 25, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sat 10.30am-1pm.

Wide span of quality paintings and drawings from 1850-1950 in show committed to putting Irish art on the map. Includes traditional subjects such as landscapes and portraits by famous nationalists such as Sir John Lavery and Sir William Orpen, exercises in Cubism by lesser-known Louis Le Brocq and a surrealist urbscape by Colin Middleton.

**PROFILE: THE CONSCIOUS CONTRACT:** Impressions Gallery, 17 Colliergate, York (0904 54724). May 24 - June 22. Tues-Sat 10am-6pm.

The criteria is that each photograph had to exhibit a formal relationship between subject and photographer. The result is a broad-ranging, exciting examination of British portrait photography from 1935 to the present day.

**SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR:** National Museum of Photography, Princess View, Bradford, West Yorkshire (0274 727488). Until Nov 30. Tues-Sat noon-8pm, Sun 2.30-6pm.

Includes work by title holder, Eamonn McCabe of *The Observer*, Chris Smith of *The Sunday Times* and our own Chris Smith who tip as next year's winner.

**BOOKINGS**

## FIRST CHANCE

**BALLET AT THE BIG TOP:** Personal and phone booking opens this week for Royal Ballet and Ballet Rambert at the Big Top in Battersea Park. The large circus tent, under the trees and beside the river, provides an ideal summer setting for pre-theatre picnics. Programmes include *Martian*, *La Fille mal gardée*, *Romeo and Juliet* and Scott Joplin's *Elie*. *Symphonies* by Royal Ballet (July 1-13), and dancing to Stravinsky, Schoenberg and Monteverdi made by Ballet Rambert (July 22-August 8).

**Box Office:** 48 Floral Street, London WC2 (01-240 1066/1911). Postal booking: Big Top, Royal Opera House, PO Box 6, London WC2E 7QA.

**STATED HOMES MUSIC FESTIVAL:** Venues include Deane Park, Ragley Hall, Tatton Park, Leeds Castle, Blenheim Palace, and the Banqueting House, Whitehall. June 2-Sept 13. Ticket prices include champagne, tour of house, and concert. Hampers also available. Stately Homes Concerts, PO Box 1, St Albans, Herts AL1 4ED (0727 37799/34465).

## LAST CHANCE

**MAIDSTONE FESTIVAL:** Seaside Splash - A *Revue* opens the festival at the Hazlett Theatre on June 5, and events run until June 23, including performances by the Syd Lawrence Orchestra and the London Chamber Orchestra in two comic operas by Mozart and Donizetti. Hazlett Theatre Box Office, Earl Street, Maidstone (0622 58811).

**CAMBRIDGE FESTIVAL:** Booking opens on Thurs for festival running July 13-28. Performances by the Spinners, King's Singers, Musica Antiqua Köln, Stan Tracey Big Band, George Coleman Quartet, and Dame Janet Baker with the London Bach Choir. Festival Box Office, Central Library, Lion Yard, Cambridge (0223 357851).



THE TIMES  
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

## Few takers for Daily Telegraph offer

The Daily Telegraph is finding that selling its paper in the City is every bit as hard as selling newspapers on street corners. Buyers have to be tempted, the seller must pander to his market.

Now that it is trying to raise £30 million of funding, the Telegraph is still refusing to sweeten the package with marketing ploys. It is hardly surprising that hard-nosed City bankers are not leaping at the chance of taking a minority stake in a family company, in an industry that is beset with union problems.

The newspaper group has assembled a pukka team to hawk its wares, but NM Rothschild and Cazenove are getting a gruff response to their efforts to persuade institutions to put at least a million pounds each into the company.

Fascination with the media is concentrated amongst the media folk themselves and the handful of people who, for whatever eccentric reasons, are determined to own their own bit of it. For the rest, particularly those who have been brought up to concentrate on the bottom line, newspapers have little innate attraction as an investment.

The Daily Telegraph's proposals were not geared to kindle new enthusiasm. Proprietor Lord Hartwell and his family intend to hold on to 60 per cent of the shares. A young, enthusiastic management does not appear to be materializing, if it is, it is not evident from the prospectus. And business is not going well.

The Telegraph believes that its future success depends on the move to Docklands and new, efficient plant that the cash-raising exercise is supposed to finance. But what is the trade union view of this? According to the prospectus, negotiations with the unions are "at an advanced stage". That is a phrase which does little to reassure those who have watched the extraordinary industrial relations of the newspaper business.

No wonder that outsiders are unconvinced of the Telegraph's attractions. But John Fairfax, the Australian publishing company which recently bought the Spectator is believed to find the Telegraph enticing.

They have a lot in common. Fairfax has been owned and run by the same family for 140 years. "We are not sellers," maintains Lord Hartwell. But he may be cheered to feel that, if he ever needed to be, one then despite the City's snub, there could still be buyers.

## Potential snag in Aerospace issue

The Government's undoubted success in attracting the great British public to the stock market through the British Telecom issue is producing inevitable teething troubles. Many first time investors who missed out on BT have jumped into British Aerospace and have been baffled by a mysterious clause in the prospectus. This says that even if they sell their shares before the second instalment of the offer price is due on September 12 they are still liable to pay up if the subsequent holder does not. They have not been helped by the fact that stockbrokers, who gave up reading the small print of prospectuses years ago, seem equally mystified.

The clause is not sinister. It is not unusual to put such a condition on a partly-paid share issue, as a brief look at the Enterprise Oil and Britoil prospectuses shows. The point is that any change of ownership of the 260,000 allocation letters sent out by BAe on Thursday is not recorded in the share register, which makes the new owners almost impossible to trace. Ownership changes will begin to be registered only when the actual shares

are issued after the payment of the second instalment.

What happens then if an investor sells his allocation letter to someone who does not pay the required 175p on September 12? The first option is that BAe will offer the shares back to the original investor if he will agree to pay the second instalment himself. Depending on the price at which he previously sold his shares the original owner could even stand to make a profit on this arrangement.

If, however, he does not want the shares back BAe is entitled to sell the shares on the market and keep all the proceeds minus the 175p still owed on the second instalment which will remain in limbo until the owner claims it.

The original owner is only under serious risk of loss if the BAe share price plunges below 175p before September 12. If the second owner of the shares does not pay up the company can recoup its money only by asking the original owner for it.

The average share allocation at the launch was around 200 shares, giving a second instalment payment of £350. It is anyone's guess whether BAe would consider it worthwhile going to court (its only recourse) if the worst should happen.

## Building societies' future takes shape

The Government has more or less formulated its views on the future of building societies in the light of the response received to last year's green paper and an announcement is likely from the Treasury soon. It would be no surprise if Mr Ian Stewart, Treasury economic secretary, took the opportunity in his speech to the building societies' annual conference early next month to reveal how the Government's thinking has crystallized.

The green paper laid out in detail how the Government envisaged building societies being allowed to develop a range of banking services, including offering cheque books and unsecured loans, and there is unlikely to be any substantial change to that. The Building Societies Association in its response took issue with some of the limits proposed on new activities such as the £5,000 ceiling on unsecured loans to any individual and the proposed restriction on wholesale funding to 20 per cent of liabilities.

The Treasury, however, does not appear to have given on such issues, although the legislation will probably allow the limit on wholesale funding to be altered later by statutory instrument.

One area where the Treasury does appear to have responded to BSA pleading is on allowing societies to operate in Europe. The green paper was half-hearted on this, but Mr Stewart is expected to have something more positive to say on the subject when he reveals the Treasury's latest thinking.

Modifications to the definition of Class 1 assets which would have to make up at least 90 per cent of societies' lending are likely. The green paper defined these as loans secured on owner-occupied residential property, but the BSA took the view that this definition was unworkable and should be widened and the Government seems to have taken this in.

Other matters are also due to be clarified such as the qualifying level of shareholding for voting and procedure to be followed if societies wish to turn themselves into companies. As for the legislation itself, that is due to be put forward in the autumn and could be on the statute books next summer.

# Lloyd's chief urged to bring in outside chairman at Beckett

By Alison Eadie

Mr Graham White, managing director of the troubled Richard Beckett Underwriting Agencies (RBUA), yesterday wrote to Mr Peter Miller, the chairman of Lloyd's, seeking his support to urge the Governor of the Bank of England to nominate an independent chairman for RBUA.

Mr White suggested that someone from outside the Lloyd's market should take over the agencies' affairs.

The move would be unprecedented in Lloyd's, but the £130 million losses facing 1,500 RBUA members are also unprecedented. About 500 names are hard hit with several facing losses of more than £200,000.

The call comes because Mr White believes RBUA's credibility is suspect, because it is the same legal entity as PCW Underwriting Agencies. The £130 million underwriting losses have arisen on business written in the PCW days, as did

the misappropriation of £40 million of names money by former executives of PCW.

The credibility problem is increased because both PCW and RBUA are owned by Minet Holdings, which has stated it will close RBUA down by the end of this year.

Mr White said in his letter that he feared steps would soon be taken to challenge RBUA's authority, particularly in completing the audit by the due date.

Completion of the audit is vital to Lloyd's. The insurance market's overall solvency is dependent on all Lloyd's managing agents filing audits.

The Department of Trade and Industry then certifies Lloyd's solvency, which allows it to carry on writing insurance business. RBUA's audit date had been put back to June 30 from April 30.

Mr White, who became managing director after the PCW scandals when Mr



Graham White: fears over agencies' credibility

Richard Bennett also became chairman, said RBUA was operating almost impossible circumstances.

He outlined five areas where names were likely to challenge RBUA's objectivity. They were: the preparation of underwriting accounts; re-insurance to close;

whether to continue underwriting; whether to accept offers for the management of the continuing syndicates; and the settlement of claims.

Mr White has been trying to put together a rescue attempt for names by arranging a massive letter of credit to fund the losses, while names pay only the cash claims which are running at between £7 million and £8 million a year.

His attempts have not yet borne fruit, partly because of the huge sums involved. There is also a strong belief in Lloyd's that unlimited liability is the foundation of the market and names must therefore fund their losses without help.

RBUA names have appointed Price Waterhouse to carry out an independent survey into the cause of their losses and will not pay up until they obtain satisfaction that the losses are bona fide trading losses.

## Politicians work on Maryland rescue

From Bailey Morris Washington

The Maryland state legislature met in emergency session yesterday to consider seven bills designed to resolve the crisis caused by a run estimated at \$700 million (£547 million) on deposits at the state's savings and loan institutions.

Problems at Maryland savings associations dominated a week of important economic events in which the Reagan Administration angered its European allies by announcing a \$2 billion farm subsidy plan, the House of Representatives proposed a deficit-reduction programme which put it at odds with the Senate, and speculation grew on Wall Street that the Federal Reserve Board would move to stimulate the flagging economy by reducing base rates further with a cut in the 8 per cent discount rate.

Federal and state officials moved aggressively during the week to calm public concern over the health of the US financial system by taking drastic steps in Maryland which were just short of the temporary bank closures ordered in March by the governor of Ohio who faces a similar crisis.

Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, and Mr Edwin Gray, chairman of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, issued statements that the overall system was sound despite the problems of a small minority of institutions. But both officials acknowledged that more banks and savings associations are likely to go under this year.

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation confirmed the prediction yesterday by disclosing that two more banks, in Texas and Oklahoma, had been forced to close largely because of bad energy-related loans. The closures increased the number of US banks which have been forced to close this year to 35.

In Maryland, Mr Harry Hughes, the governor, appealed to the legislature for emergency powers to protect deposits in savings associations and to ease the hardships of specific depositors unable to withdraw more than \$1,000 from frozen accounts.

Generally, the bills under consideration in Maryland are designed to create a temporary state plan backing deposits while a federal insurance programme is being worked on.

## PSBR at lower end of City forecasts

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The public sector borrowing requirements was £1.79 billion last month, towards the lower end of the range of expectations. It compared with £2.38 billion in April last year.

For the first four months of this year, public sector borrowing totalled £1.6 billion, down on the £2.3 billion recorded in the corresponding period of last year.

The PSBR figures are expected to follow a similar "front-end loading" pattern as last year. A Treasury spokesman said that about two-thirds of the 1985-86 PSBR target of £7 billion can be expected to fall in the first half.

The central government borrowing requirement last month was £900 million. Consolidated fund revenue totalled £7.4 billion and consolidated fund expenditure £9 billion.

Official figures also released

PUBLIC SECTOR BORROWING £ million			
	Public sector borrowing requirement	Central government borrowing requirement	Local authority borrowing requirement
April 1985	1,794	919	781
April 1984	2,383	1,887	929
Jan-April 1985	1,581	871	1,991
Jan-April 1984	2,310	1,947	2,056

Source: Central Statistical Office.

## \$600m US cable link to go ahead

By Cliff Feltham

Cable and Wireless is to go ahead with a \$600 million (£476 million) project to lay the first private fibre optic telecommunication cable across the Atlantic.

The company's American partner, Tel-Optik, was given permission last night by the US Federal Communications Commission to land two cables which will be linked to New York.

The announcement was hailed as magnificent news by Sir Eric Sharp, chairman and chief executive of Cable and Wireless. He said: "We already have full rights to lay our end of the cables in the UK through our subsidiary, Mercury Communications. We shall now go full speed ahead - in fact we are already talking to potential high volume users and technical studies for the system are under way."

The new cable system will be jointly owned by Cable and Wireless and Tel-Optik, and service should begin on the first cable in June 1989.

In Britain the cables will be landed on the west coast and will be connected to a common terminal station in the London area.

## IN BRIEF Telecom in US talks

Chiefs of the American telephone company Bell Atlantic, met British Telecom in London this week to discuss possible areas of co-operation. The Bell executives are on a whistle-stop tour of European financial centres to highlight their prospects after the court-ordered break-up of AT & T last year.

Mr Thomas Bolger, Bell's chairman and chief executive, said yesterday: "BT is one of the telecommunications companies in the world. There is the possibility in the future that there might be scope for co-operation in certain areas."

A BT spokesman commented later: "These informal discussions go on all the time and the contents are not for public consumption."

## Midland moves

Mr John Brooks, deputy group chief executive of Midland Bank, is to take charge of overseeing the integration of Crocker National's international and merchant banking activities with those of Midland Bank. Mr John Greenwell, who has been appointed chief executive, UK business, will take over Mr Brooks's previous responsibilities for British commercial banking and related activities.

Kleinwort, Benson, Lonsdale became the first merchant banking group to issue perpetual debt which ranks as primary capital under Bank of England guidelines. In a deal arranged by Credit Suisse First Boston the group is raising \$100 million through perpetual floating rate notes paying 7 1/2 per cent over the six-month London interbank offered rate.

## \$11.7m issue

F. H. Tomkins, the industrial holdings company, is to raise \$11.7 million with a two-for-seven rights issue at 150p. The company forecasts pretax profits of at least £3.25 million (£2.4 million) for the year to May 4. It expects to pay a final dividend of 1.475p, making 2.25p for the year against 1.8p last time. *Tempos, page 23*

## Correction

In yesterday's editions the graph accompanying the feature on Wellcome Foundation showed expenditure on research and development declining between 1980 and 1984. In fact that category of spending rose in that period from £47 million a year to £96 million.

## Aetna Life may bid for bank

By Peter Wilson-Smith Banking Correspondent

Aetna Life and Casualty, the American insurance group, is one of the contenders to buy European Banking Company, the London consortium bank in which Midland Bank has a stake.

Midland and Aetna are already locked in discussions over Midland buying out Aetna's 40 per cent stake in Samuel Montagu, leaving Aetna with control of Montagu's fund management side, Montagu Investment Management.

If Aetna emerges as the successful bidder for EBC, this could add a further dimension to the complex deal.

Amsterdam-Rotterdam Bank, one of EBC's existing shareholders, is also believed to be among those interested in buying the consortium bank which is expected to fetch about £25 million. A spokesman for Amro refused to comment yesterday.

EBC was put up for sale by its seven shareholders which are all part of the European Banks International Company. Midland Bank is following a policy of selling off minority investments and most of the other shareholders are now well represented in London.

A number of institutions are said to be serious contenders for EBC.

## Liverpool Street scheme advances

By Judith Huntley, Commercial Property Correspondent

Stanhope Securities, the private company set up by Mr Stuart Lipton on his departure from Greycoat Estates, has tied up £10 million of financing for its capital injection in the £250 million office development at Liverpool and Broad Street stations in London. The 1.1 million sq ft scheme is being carried out with Stanhope, the development company chaired by Mr Godfrey Bradman.

Rosehaugh also has a stake in Woolworth Holdings. Klientwort Benson Investment Management, Globe Investment Trust and Robert Fleming Investment Management have subscribed to £10 million of loan stock repayable after five to seven years at 8 1/2 per cent. In return they have a 32 per cent stake in Stanhope but Mr Lipton retains a controlling interest.

British Rail, which owns the site, will initially receive £75 million from the scheme and a share of any development profit.

MARKET SUMMARY		
STOCK MARKETS		
FT Ind Ord	1008.3 (-4.2)	
FT-A All Share	537.91 (-3.01)	
FT Govt Securities	80.57 (+0.05)	
FT-SE 100	1267.4 (-8.7)	
Bergsman	24.78	
Dataseam USM	(-)	
New York		
Dow Jones	1283.13 (+5.08)	
Tokyo		
Nikkei Dow	12,419.99 (+50.89)	
Hong Kong		
Hang Seng	1647.88 (+12.00)	
Amsterdam	207.9 (-0.2)	
Sydney: AO	900.7 (-2.0)	
Frankfurt		
Commerzbank	1294.7 (+1.8)	
Braunels		
General	237.72 (unchanged)	
Paribas CAC	221.1 (-0.5)	
Paribas		
SKA General	353.90 (unchanged)	
GOLD		
London fixing		
Am \$19.80-20 \$22.50		
Am \$22.50-22.75 (\$25.24)		
2255.75		
New York		
Comex \$22.25		
MAIN PRICE CHANGES		
RISES:		
Elbar Industrial	40 +10	
Micro Focus	350 +50	
AAM Hire	18 +3	
Munton Bros	18 1/2 +2 1/2	
Cleynson Son	113 +15	
Rayford Supreme	215 +25	
Tumbull Scott	410 +40	
Tumbull Scott "A"	410 +40	
En Serv & B	107 +9	
Stockard Higgs "A"	12 +1	
Peters Stores	33 +3	
Barke & Dobson	12 1/2 +1	
Newman Ind	36 +2	
Yorkdyde	152 +12	
Burnett & Hallamshire	40 +3	
Control Soco	42 +3	
Lincroft Kilgour	170 +12	
Nottingham Manf	212 +212	
FALLS:		
Harold Ingram	120 -20	
WV Thetmax	75 -10	
after five to seven years at 8 1/2 per cent		
Radio C&A n/v	48 -5	
Sheffield Brick	20 -2	
Reliant Motor	53 -5	
CURRENCIES		
London:		
\$: \$1.2848 (+0.0040)		
DM: 3.6772 (-0.0105)		
S: 3.2662 (+0.0117)		
FF: 11.8897 (-0.0124)		
Yen: 316.95 (no change)		
Index: 79.0 (-0.1)		
New York:		
\$: \$1.2855		
DM: 3.6888		
S: 3.2688 (-0.7)		
FF: 11.8911		
SDR: 0.591319		
INTEREST RATES		
London:		
Bank Base: 12% - 12 1/2 %		
3-month Interbank: 12% - 12 1/2 %		
3-month eligible bills		
buying rate 12 1/2 - 12		
US:		
Prime Rate 10.50%		
Federal Funds 7 1/4 - 7 3/4 %		
3-month Treasury Bills 7 1/4 - 7 3/4 %		
Long bond yield 10 1/4 - 10 3/4 %		

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Australia 8% The enormous reserves of metals, oil and natural gas provide underlying strength for the economy and the recent turn around in the fortunes of mining companies suggest immediate potential.

Malaysia 5% Growing emphasis on the private sector has encouraged important manufacturing enterprise, building a broadly based economy onto traditional plantation industries.

Korea 2% The Seoul Olympic Games highlights the ambitions of the Korean government to become another Japan.

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SURNAME: \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

POST CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**Perpetual**

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WALL STREET

May 15	May 16	May 17	May 18	May 19
AMC Inc	15 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2
AMR	41 1/2	41 1/2	41 1/2	41 1/2
Alcoa	32 1/2	32 1/2	32 1/2	32 1/2
Allegiant	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
Allegiant	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
Allegiant	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
Allegiant	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
Allegiant	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
Allegiant	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
Allegiant	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2

Dow up in early trade

New York (Agencies) - The market headed higher in early trading yesterday. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 4.08 to 1,282.13 at one stage.

The New York Stock Exchange index was up 0.24 to 107.74 earlier and the price of an average share was up 7 cents. Advancing issues led declining shares by 706-485 among the 1,718 early issues.

Niagara Mohawk Power was the most active issue, unchanged at 19 1/2. ATT followed, unchanged at 23 1/2. Sperry Corp was third, up 1 1/2 to 55 1/2.

Prices were higher in active trading of American Stock Exchange issues.

The strong bond market was helped by the interest-sensitive bank and utility stocks. Moody's investors service has downgraded the long-term debt rating of Atlantic Richfield Co to Double-A3 from Double-A1. Announcing this in New York yesterday Moody's said: "This action reflects the sharp increase in financial leverage which will result from Arco's large debt-financed stock repurchase programme."

The rating agency said: "Nearing completion of the \$1 billion stock purchase programme initiated in August last year, Arco recently announced its intention to purchase an additional \$4 billion of its stock and to increase the dividend."

"The company's aggressive financial strategy in a period of high industry risk was the key factor in Moody's decision," the agency added.

COMMODITIES

Commodity	Price	Change
London Commodity Exchange		
Rubber in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Coffee in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Cocoa in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Metal Exchange		
Aluminum in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Copper in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Zinc in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Grain Futures		
Wheat in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Barley in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Oats in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Oil Futures		
Crude oil in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Gas oil in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Heating oil in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Cotton Futures		
Cotton in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Wool in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Yarn in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Sugar Futures		
Sugar in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Starch in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Flour in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Lumber Futures		
Lumber in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Timber in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Logs in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Gold Futures		
Gold in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Silver in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Palladium in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Platinum Futures		
Platinum in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Rhodium in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Iridium in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Palladium Futures		
Palladium in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Rhodium in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Iridium in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Rhodium Futures		
Rhodium in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Iridium in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Palladium in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Iridium Futures		
Iridium in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Palladium in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Rhodium in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Silver Futures		
Silver in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Palladium in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Rhodium in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Platinum Futures		
Platinum in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Rhodium in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Iridium in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Gold Futures		
Gold in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Silver in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Palladium in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Silver Futures		
Silver in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Palladium in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Rhodium in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Platinum Futures		
Platinum in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Rhodium in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Iridium in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Gold Futures		
Gold in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Silver in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Palladium in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Silver Futures		
Silver in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Palladium in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Rhodium in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Platinum Futures		
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Rhodium in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Iridium in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
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Gold in 100 lb ton	715-800	
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Palladium in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Rhodium in 100 lb ton	715-800	

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Rhodium in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Iridium in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Gold Futures		
Gold in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Silver in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Palladium in 100 lb ton	715-800	

COMMODITIES

Commodity	Price	Change
London Commodity Exchange		
Rubber in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Coffee in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Cocoa in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Metal Exchange		
Aluminum in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Copper in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Zinc in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Grain Futures		
Wheat in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Barley in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Oats in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Oil Futures		
Crude oil in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Gas oil in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Heating oil in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Cotton Futures		
Cotton in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Wool in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Yarn in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Sugar Futures		
Sugar in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Starch in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Flour in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
London Lumber Futures		
Lumber in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Timber in 100 lb ton	715-800	
Logs in 100 lb ton	715-800	

Commodity	Price	Change
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# Nottingham soars as Vantona goes for David and Goliath hat-trick

## TEMPUS

# Takeover action may be on way from Tomkins

**TEMPUS**

## Takeover action may be on way from Tomkins

After bad money supply figures and ahead of inflation and PSBR figures which were rumoured to be poor, the gilt edged market saw a heavy withdrawal symptoms. Longs slid roughly a point from their peak on Tuesday, while shorts dropped about half a point.

Specialist areas of the market, such as the area around demand, Low coupon stocks boomed, and so did the index-linked category of gilts.

also the largest profit earner. Margins fell in 1984, from 32.3 per cent to 27.6 per cent, largely reflecting the fact that the company was the first to recover provided more than adequate compensation.

The shares, down 3p at 266p, still look cheap and do not reflect the value of the company's betting licences, in the books at £73.2 million, but worth a lot more.

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The shares, down 3p at 266p, still look cheap and do not reflect the real value of the company's betting licences, in the books at £73.2 million, but worth a lot more.

# OLYM

## Brammer bids £40m for ESE

Brammer's and ESE's businesses were an excellent fit, M Head said.

**"Will you turn £500 of penny shares into £1,000 in just six weeks?"** **MICHAEL CHANTLEY**  
PUBLISHING DIRECTOR

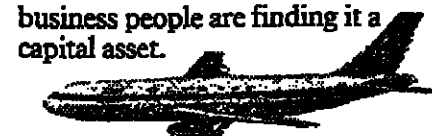
MEMBERSHIP (SUGGESTED FIDUCIARIES LTD), ACT. NO. 51004-530 at  
and Bank Plc., Knightsbridge 40 04 10, the sum of £72.00.  
MONTHS FROM THE DATE SHOWN and thereafter the  
£144.00 each year on the anniversary of the date shown  
my membership to Stockmarket Confidential and debit  
my account accordingly until countermanded by me in writing.

# OLYMPIC AIRWAYS OFFER SPACIOUS OFFICES AT 37,000 FT.



# A WISE CHOICE

**OLYMPIC**  
AIRWAYS  
The International Airline of Greece



Olympic Airways offices in London, Birmingham, Manchester and Glasgow or contact your nearest IATA Travel Agent.

**OLYMPIC**  
AIRWAYS  
The International Airline of Greece



# M&G INITIAL OFFER INTERNATIONAL INCOME FUND

THE NEW M&G INTERNATIONAL INCOME FUND aims to provide investors with a high income, and one that can be expected to increase over the years, from an international portfolio of equities. The estimated gross starting yield is 6%. It will appeal particularly to people who think it is prudent to have some of their money invested overseas without sacrificing income.

An important part of M&G's reputation is based on providing steadily increasing income from high-yielding unit trusts. In addition we have led the way in the development of overseas trusts, with an investment team that includes specialists in all the important overseas stockmarkets. These two factors are now combined in The M&G International Income Fund.

We believe that there are at present a number of excellent opportunities around the world for buying shares with high yields. You should remember that exchange rate fluctuations may affect our ability to provide an increase in income every year. We expect the initial geographical spread to be broadly as follows:

USA 40% Hong Kong 10% Europe 7%  
UK 20% Australia 8% Japan 5%  
Gold shares 10%

Unit trusts are a long-term investment and not suitable for money you may need at short notice. The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

During the initial offer (closing 31st May 1985) applications of £2,000 or more will receive an extra 1% allocation of units.

Applications will be acknowledged and Certificates will be posted on or before 28th June 1985. Once the initial offer has closed units can be bought or sold on any business day at the prices then ruling by writing to or telephoning M&G (Unit Dealing Department), Three Quays, Tower Hill, London EC3R 6BQ. Telephone: 01-283 5362.

**FURTHER INFORMATION**  
Income units and Accumulation units are both available. Distributions on Income units will be paid net of basic rate tax on 1st June and 1st December, starting with an interim distribution on 1st December 1985. Income on Accumulation units is reinvested to increase their value and holders will receive an annual tax voucher starting in December 1986. Prices and yields will appear daily in the Financial Times and The Daily Telegraph. Unit holders will receive a registered certificate for their units, issued by the Trustee, and a Managers' Report every six months. Management charges: A preliminary

charge of 5% of the value of each unit issued is included in the price and an annual charge of 1% (plus VAT) of the value of the Fund will be deducted from its gross income. Remuneration is payable to accredited agents; rates are available on request. A copy of the Trust Deed may be inspected at the head office of the Trustee or at M&G's London Office. Auditors to the Fund: Deloitte Haskins & Sells. Taxation: The Fund does not pay tax on capital gains. Income is distributed (or retained) net of income tax at the basic rate. The Fund is a wider-range investment under the Trustee Investments Act, 1961, and is authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry. Application has been made to The Council of the Stock Exchange for the units to be admitted to The Official List. The Trustee is Lloyds Bank Plc.

M&G SECURITIES LIMITED, Three Quays, Tower Hill, London EC3R 6BQ.

## INITIAL OFFER CLOSES 31st MAY

During the initial offer, which will close on 31st May 1985, applications of £2,000 or more will receive an extra 1% allocation of units.

The Managers reserve the right to decline subscriptions at any time and you are recommended to apply as soon as possible, but in any event applications with cheques must reach us by 31st May 1985.

To: M&G Securities Limited,  
Three Quays, Tower Hill, London EC3R 6BQ

Please invest £.00 in INCOME/ACCUMULATION units (delete as applicable or Income units will be issued) of The M&G International Income Fund at 50p each (minimum investment £500). My cheque, payable to M&G Securities Limited, is enclosed. APPLICATIONS MUST INCLUDE CHEQUES.

Are you an existing M&G Unitholder? YES/NO

OR (MR/MRS/MISS)	FULL NAME(S)
SURNAME	
OR ADDRESS	
POST CODE	
BIT	

SIGNATURE  
DATE  
Registered in England No. 50776 Reg. Office: as above  
(This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland)

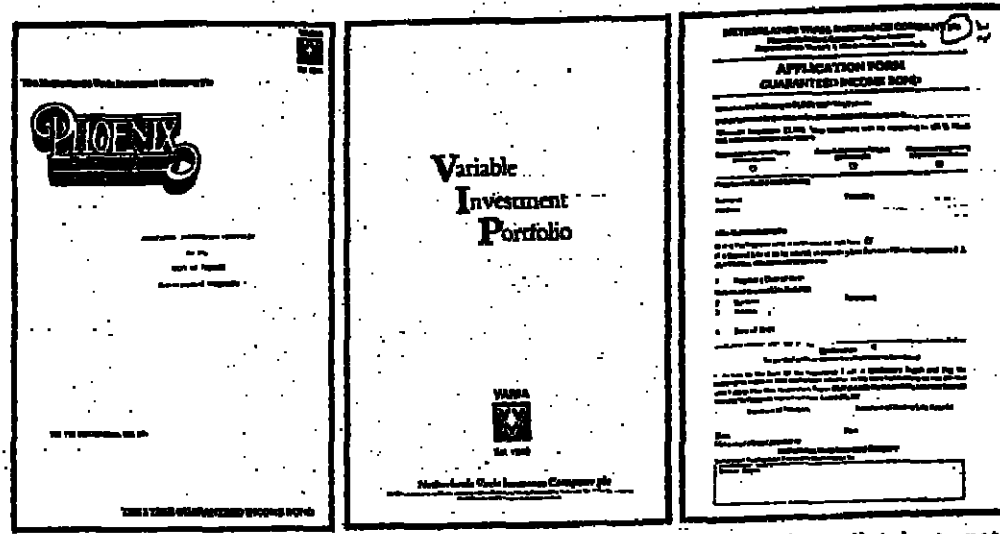
**M&G SECURITIES**

Edited by Lorna Bourke

FAMILY MONEY/1

## The £19,000 bond mystery

The investors who handed out their money for income bonds due to be issued by a Dutch company are asking should the investment be backed by a building venture?



Mystery surrounds the whereabouts of some £19,000 of investors' money intended for investment in income bonds. The bonds were to be issued by a Rotterdam-based insurance company - Netherlands Varia - and promotion in this country was in the hands of Patrick Dukes, believed to be Patrick Curran, who successfully promoted investments in the failed Gibraltar-based Signal Life.

Mr Dukes has been operating from the offices of Montague Purford Rawal, at 50A Pall Mall, London, SW1. Chris Arkell, a partner in Montague Purford Rawal, said: "Mr Dukes was asked to leave. I confronted him and he admitted he was Patrick Curran."

"I was introduced to Netherlands Varia by Mr Dukes and asked to do some research and development into property investments. Varia was looking for investments in property."

Mr Arkell says that as Netherlands Varia is his client he has recommended it to withdraw the income bond from sale. "I have got to be sure that there are no twists or irregularities."

Investments in offshore insurance companies are not protected by the compensation clauses in the Policyholders Protection Act. Because it is illegal to advertise offshore investments in this country, Mr Dukes promoted the income

bonds by advertising for brokers to sell the bonds. Mrs Ruth Levi, an insurance consultant from Castleford, said: "I answered an advertisement in March and went to see Mr Dukes. He had originally advertised for brokers to sell a new home annuity scheme for the over-70s but when I went to see him it turned out that the scheme wasn't quite ready. He said would we like to sell income bonds offering a guaranteed return of 15 per cent."

Mr Arkell said: "The brokers are going to be contacted directly by Netherlands Varia. My advice is for Netherlands Varia to tell the brokers that the bonds have been withdrawn."

Mr Arkell says that only £19,000 of the bonds have so far been sold, representing five separate investments.

The income bond was to be backed by investments in property development in downtown Phoenix, Arizona. Mr Arkell has been negotiating with M & M Property Group (Marblemount) UK agents for the Phoenix scheme.

But is property a suitable investment to back an income bond? And if so, why is Mr Arkell recommending Netherlands Varia to withdraw the bonds? "It is not a question of what is the matter with the bonds, but having had discussions with the M & M people

they said they did not wish to go ahead."

Mr Arkell claims that Mr Dukes had represented himself as working for Netherlands Varia, but says that Netherlands Varia has denied this.

"I have just spoken to the Varia people and in a statement they say that Mr Patrick Duke was engaged as a self-employed consultant in January 1985 to assist the company to develop markets in the United Kingdom. Mr Dukes has not been an officer or shareholder of the company. Mr Dukes has made certain representations to the bank and other persons that he was a manager of the company in England without the knowledge or consent of the company."

"Because of his improper representations and adverse comments relating to his past activities, his services to the company were terminated in April 1985."

But what has happened to the £19,000 of investor's money in cheques made out to Netherlands Varia? Mr Arkell says that they arrived in his office and he sent them to Simon G. Freeman & Co, solicitors, who, he claimed, were acting as trustee to the bond. This is the impression given by the promotional literature.

But Mr Freeman denies this. "My clients are the vendors of some properties in Phoenix, Arizona, and they agreed to sell

them to Varia. But I am not quite sure in what capacity I can hold this money anyway. My position of trustee is in a quite different capacity," says Mr Freeman. "My clients are certainly not Varia."

Mr Freeman says he has received no money from Montague Purford Rawal.

Where is this money? Mr Arkell says: "It was collected by a chap from M & M and taken round by hand."

Why should cheques made out to Netherlands Varia be handed over to someone from M & M? "The chap who does the running around for M & M sometimes does it for Simon Freeman, so I thought it would be quicker to hand them to him," explains Mr Arkell. "They then got stuck in a drawer at M & M."

Mr Arkell says he is certain that no other money has been collected to be invested in the bonds. "If there is any broker around sitting on money from investors he ought to contact Varia. Varia will be issuing instructions to send the cheques back to people."

If any investors have made cheques payable to Netherlands Varia which have not yet been cleared by the bank, their best course of action is to stop them. As an offshore insurance company, an investment in Netherlands Varia is not protected by the Policyholders Protection Act.

Lorna Bourke

## Building societies cool on conveyancing

Indifference was the main reaction of the building societies to Thursday's news that the Cabinet had decided not to put forward legislation allowing societies to offer house conveyancing services in this session of Parliament. In fact, many large societies are simply not interested in offering a conveyancing service at present.

The societies' inactivity is the argument put forward by the solicitors' lobby, led by the Law Society, that allowing them to offer their clients conveyancing facilities may lead to conflicts of interest.

"We believe conflicts of interest can be overcome," said Mark Boleat, deputy

general secretary of the Building Societies Association. "Solicitors employed by societies could have a code of practice drawn up preventing such conflicts. In any case, no building society borrower would be obliged to use the conveyancing service of his society."

The reason for the societies' indifference stems rather from other sources. Callum MacCaskill of the Halifax put one point of view: "We believe the consumer is entitled to choose and value for money."

Tim Melville-Ross, chief general manager of Nationwide, said: "It is a locally based business, hard to organize and

expensive to set up. Within the present climate it is hard to see how building societies can offer a cheap and efficient conveyancing service. But that would change if the whole system of house conveyancing itself was improved and simplified."

"If that happens building societies would be in a position to use their large and sophisticated data processing systems to provide a conveyancing service that was profitable to them and beneficial to their borrowers."

Richard Thomson

## £20 A MONTH CAN ACCUMULATE A LOT OF MONEY

If you had chosen fifteen years ago to save £20 a month in a building society, and had left the interest to accumulate, by 1st April 1985 your total outlay of £3,600 would have built up to £7,213. On the other hand, if you had chosen to save the same amount each month in one of our larger unit trusts, M&G SECOND General Trust Fund, you would have built up an investment worth £17,219, an extra £10,006.

You can start an M&G Unit Trust Savings Plan with as little as £20. You need not subscribe regularly but we strongly recommend that you do so, by completing the Bankers Order form. By saving a regular amount you make fluctuations in the stockmarket work to your advantage because more units are bought when their price is low than when it is high.

Unit Trusts are an excellent method of investing in the various stockmarkets of the world, and are ideal for regular investment over the longer term. They are not suitable for money you may need at short notice.

The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

Your Savings Plan subscriptions go into Accumulation units of the Fund you choose and income is reinvested automatically after basic rate tax. Further details of the Funds and

**WHAT YOU COULD HAVE ACCUMULATED FOR £20 A MONTH BY 1st APRIL 1985**

	5 YEARS from 1 April 1980	10 YEARS from 1 April 1980	15 YEARS from 1 April 1980
Amount paid in	1,200	2,400	3,600
M&G Dividend	2,483	7,996	18,397
M&G Recovery	2,182	9,263	25,747
M&G SECOND	2,214	7,876	17,219
FT Industrial Ordinary Index	2,104	5,931	11,294
Building Society Savings Account	1,496	3,839	7,213

Source: Planned Savings. All performance figures include income reinvested net of basic rate tax. The figures for the M&G Funds are 'bid' prices. You should remember that past performance is no guarantee for the future.

the rules of the plan are available on request. All the Funds are wide-range securities and are authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

The only charges are those you normally pay with unit trusts - 5% included in the initial price of units and up to 1% annually (currently limited to 1% except for International Income Fund which is 1%) for management. There are no extra charges for this Savings Plan.

You can vary the amount you pay and you are free to cash in your accumulated investment, or part of it, at any time without penalty. The securities in a unit trust are held in safe custody by the Trustee (one of the major banks). You can follow the progress of your plan by looking up the price of units and the current yield in the Financial Times or other leading newspapers. You buy units at the 'offer' price and sell at the 'bid' price.

### SAVINGS PLANS FOR CHILDREN

The minimum age for the Unit Trust Savings Plan is 14, but accounts for younger children can be opened in the name of an adult and designated with the child's full name.

### NO EXTRA CHARGES

BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE  
BLOCK LETTERS  
BLOCK NUMBERS  
BLOCK SYMBOLS  
BLOCK PUNCTUATION  
BLOCK SPECIAL CHARACTERS  
BLOCK UNUSUAL CHARACTERS  
BLOCK UNUSUAL SPACES  
BLOCK UNUSUAL LINE FEEDS  
BLOCK UNUSUAL TABS  
BLOCK UNUSUAL CARRIAGE RETURNS  
BLOCK UNUSUAL FORM FEEDS  
BLOCK UNUSUAL OTHERS

TO: M&G SECURITIES LTD., THREE QUAYS, TOWER HILL, LONDON EC3R 6BQ

I WISH TO SUBSCRIBE £.00 (min £20) each month to the M&G Unit Trust Savings Plan and I enclose a cheque (made payable to M&G Securities Limited) for my first subscription of £.00 (you may wish to start your plan with a lump sum).  
I wish my subscription to be invested in the Fund circled.

If no Fund is circled your plan will be linked to M&G SECOND.

AMERICAN & GEN. INTL. INCOME	INTERNATIONAL INCOME
AUSTRALASIAN	JAPAN & GEN.
COMPOUND GROWTH	MIDLAND
DIVIDEND	RECOVERY
INTERNATIONAL GROWTH	SECOND GOLD

BANKERS ORDER DO NOT DETACH FROM ENROLMENT FORM  
TO: M&G SECURITIES LTD., THREE QUAYS, TOWER HILL, LONDON EC3R 6BQ  
DATE: 1985  
YOUR BANK: [ ] Personal Bank [ ] See your cheque book for details  
Please pay to the order of M&G Securities Limited (Savings Plan Account), quoting Account No. 55713270 for the credit of M&G Securities Limited (Savings Plan Account), the sum of £.00 on the day of 1985 and contribute to pay that amount on the day of each month/quarter until further order in writing from me, and debit my account with you from time to time with such payments.  
FROM (SIGNATURE) AND INITIALS: [ ]  
ADDRESS: [ ]  
SIGNATURE: [ ]  
DATE: [ ]

The units will be registered in the name of M&G Securities Limited and held for your account under the rules of the plan.  
If the Savings Plan account is being opened for the benefit of a child, please fill in here the full name of the child.  
I understand that further subscriptions can be made at any time (minimum £20) and that I can reallocate my holding on any business day without penalty at the bid price ruling.  
SIGNATURE: [ ]  
DATE: [ ]  
Registered in England No. 50776  
Reg. Office: as above  
(This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland)

THE M&G GROUP

## PICK THE RIGHT RATE FOR YOUR MONEY

FOR INVESTMENTS OF £5,000 AND ABOVE		
ANNUAL INTEREST	COMPOUNDED ANNUAL RATE	GROSS EQUIVALENT
10.03% NET	10.50% WITH INTEREST ADDED MONTHLY	15.01% GROSS EQUIVALENT
FOR INVESTMENTS OF £1,000 AND ABOVE		
ANNUAL INTEREST	GROSS EQUIVALENT	
10.03% NET	14.33% GROSS EQUIVALENT	

### GOLD STAR INSTANT ACCESS. NO PENALTIES.

Invest £5,000 and above in Gold Star with Monthly interest and earn 10.50% compounded annual rate when full monthly interest is added to the account. Invest £1,000 and more and earn an

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FAMILY MONEY 12

# State pension abolition 'half-baked'

The Government has come in for much criticism from the pension industry over its rumoured intention to abolish the State earnings related pension scheme (Serps). "Any decision to break the inter-party consensus achieved at the time Serps was introduced should be taken only with the greatest reluctance, and as a result of careful and sound reasoning," commented Joe McHarg, general manager of Scottish Provident.

There is, in fact, no sign of careful and sound reasoning. The ideas produced so far on personal pensions are most charitably described as half-baked. Now we hear that there may be a proposal to abolish Serps by stages - thus rendering all previous consultation and questioning null and void, since this took place in the belief that one could take at face value Government assurances that the fundamental structure established with all-party agreement was not in question.

Mr McHarg added: "All this is the product of ignorance, born of prejudice out of ignorance, and bad news for a great number of the elderly."

## Divided views on Sunday shopping

On Monday the House of Commons will debate whether England and Wales should have legalised Sunday shopping, as Scotland already does. To judge the decision in favour of greater freedom the National Consumer Council has published some figures.

The present law is widely ignored. In one month the NCC found no fewer than 1,700 local Press advertisements publicising shops trading illegally on Sundays. Recent MORI polls have shown that well over 60 per cent of the population is in favour of Sunday opening. Some groups in particular would gain from the change, such as disabled people and those who work

The NCC quotes also a survey of shops carried out by the Polytechnic of Central London last month, which shows that only 15 to 20 per cent of high street shops would stay open all the year round. This evidence contradicts the argument that the pressure of competition will force shops to open on Sunday which do not necessarily want to.

The NCC argues that Sunday opening could further benefit consumers by producing a fall in prices which, according to the Institute of Fiscal Studies, would cut the Retail Price Index by 0.4 per cent. Services such as public transport would also benefit from more custom.

## Separation tip

Couples who split up and wish to provide for their offspring should take the tax-efficient precaution of ensuring that the breadwinner's maintenance payments for the children are paid under a court order. In a test case in the Chancery Division (Harvey v Sawyer, The Times May 16) Mr Justice Nourse held that voluntary payments made under a deed of separation by the children's father were to be treated as constituting a settlement, and thus as his income for tax purposes, and not that of the children.

Therefore the children, through their mother, were unable to recover from the Revenue the income tax the father had paid on the sums they received. Since 1981 the Revenue has not treated payments under a court order as a settlement except where it created a trust. If in doubt, seek advice.

## Home loan choice

If you fancy your chances at getting a mortgage right, a home loan scheme from the insurance broker Barnett Gold might appeal. Borrowers who receive a minimum of £30,000 and have income of at least £15,000 a year have three options.

You can go for a loan with the interest fixed for 12 months at a time and linked to wholesale money market rates. Alternatively you can take a loan with interest payments fixed at 13.25 per cent for five years, or you can opt for the normal "floating" rate at 2 per cent over

bank base rate for loans not exceeding 50 per cent of valuation, or 2.5 per cent for larger loans. There are various options to switch between the different schemes.

Clearly, if you think rates are going to average out at more than 13.25 per cent over the next five years it will pay you to go for the five-year scheme.

Details from Barnett Gold & Company, 8 Manchester Square, London W1R 6AJ. Tel: (01) 486-0211.

## Tourist boom

Businesses involved in the tourist trade can expect a boom year according to the market researcher Mintel. Package holidays abroad are running 20 per cent below 1984 levels, and the number of Britons holidaying in the UK is expected to soar. Some UK hotel operators are reporting bookings up by 20 to 25 per cent.

Visits by overseas holidaymakers are also on the increase, with 13.8 million arriving last year, an increase of 11 per cent on 1983, though businesses in London were the main beneficiaries, with 55 per cent of overseas visitors staying in the capital.

## Leave opposed

Employers are standing firm in their opposition to an EEC plan to give parents three months' leave on the birth of a child. A survey of more than 100 national agreements on pay and conditions, carried out on behalf of the Confederation of British Industry, shows that only seven companies provide for paid paternity leave. The report says: "Very few concessions have been made over the past two years despite a growing number of claims for paternity leave by trade unions at national level."

The index states that employers are standing firm behind the CBI in its opposition - endorsed by the Government - to the Brussels plan. The CBI argues that the EEC's draft directive would, if implemented, worsen British industry's competitiveness - already 20 per cent down on 1975. And it would add to employers' costs.

"Arrangements for parental leave should be voluntary," says the CBI, "so that



"If you wouldn't mind signing the withdrawal form, sir..."

companies deal with the matter in ways best suited to their circumstances and those of their employees."

Those companies that do give paternity leave to employees offer between one and four days' paid leave. The majority of firms expect employees to take holidays or arrange unpaid leave for this purpose.

## Insurance drive

Small firms are the target for the British Insurance Brokers Association's latest "Insurance Week", organized to coincide with "Small Firms Local Enterprise Week '85" promoted by the Department of Trade.

The week runs from May 15-24, and during this period small firms throughout the country will be encouraged to discuss their insurance needs with BIBA members. BIBA has also produced a checklist for small firms - "We've got a small firm policy just for you" - available from BIBA brokers or from BIBA House, 14 Berris Marks, London EC2A 7AT.

"For small businesses, adequate insurance is vital in case of fire, theft, credit protection and other risks", commented John Hackett, the director of BIBA.

## More protection

New measures come into force tomorrow which will provide borrowers with the full protection of the Consumer Credit Act.

The Act will cover credit and hire purchase agreements up to £15,000, compared with the present limit of £5,000. Among other things, it gives borrowers the right to cancel agreements signed in their own homes and the right to a rebate of charges when settling a credit agreement early.

Details from the Office of Fair Trading, Field House, Breams Buildings, ECA.

## Management schemes

Too many people who start their own business are doomed to fail because they have not studied basic management subjects like cash flow and marketing, says the Manpower Services Commission. To help solve this problem, the MSC is running a series of schemes under its "Training for Enterprise" programme, which is being expanded.

This expansion is important, because it is increasingly clear that training in business management, no matter how basic, greatly increases a small company's chances of survival and growth," explained Bryan Nicholson, the chairman of MSC.

This year the training programmes will have a budget of £14.4 million compared with £9 million in 1984-85. The numbers taking part in the scheme are expected to rise from 5,000 last year to a total of 16,000 during the current year. Details from the Manpower Services Commission, Moorfoot, Sheffield.

## New BES fund

New Business Expansion Schemes are appearing with a fund from Causeway, which hopes to raise between £1 and £2 million for investment in new and expanding companies. Managers of the fund are Causeway Capital, whose founding directors are David Sackler-Walker, a former vice-chairman of N M Rothschild & Son, and Lionel Anthony, a former deputy director-general of the National Coal Board pension fund.

The new BES fund will be looking for investment in eligible commercial and industrial sectors, mainly unlisted companies, but start-up and management buy-outs will not be excluded. Details from Causeway Capital Ltd. Tel: (07) 631 3073.

## Capital charge

Trustees who prudently insure themselves against the capital transfer tax consequences of their death while acting as trustees have learned from the House of Lords that those premiums are chargeable to the capital portion of the trust. They cannot be charged to the trust income even if the settlement creating the trust provides that such expenses should be chargeable to income.

Moreover, fees paid to investment advisers are also capital expenses, and not income expenses. Therefore such premiums and fees cannot be allowed against the trust's income tax.

## Courtesy course

Anyone who has had to deal with a moody, recalcitrant teenager will be pleased to know that someone is taking an interest in teaching them to be nice to people. The provider of this "life skills" package is the Building Societies Association.

Branda Glavie, the association's schools liaison officer, said: "Many school leavers, including some of those with good academic qualifications, enter the world of work with little or no experience of dealing with people. They are often unable to express themselves well, and do not understand the impressions they give to other people."

The package is not specifically related to building societies, but rather is aimed at helping pupils who intend to work in the service industries - a growing sector of the economy.

The package comprises an hour long video cassette together with descriptive teachers' notes, and is aimed at fourth and fifth year secondary school pupils. Details from the Building Societies Association, 3 Savile Row, London W1X 1AF.

# The cost prophets

An authoritative report from the City University says that current hysteria over the cost of future pension provision and the working population's ability to pay is unfounded. The report says: "Strains there will be, but not much greater than have already been faced and borne before."

"The major dependency strains arising from the lower birth rate will not arise until 30 to 40 years from now, and there is ample time for a resolute and far sighted government to plan ahead."

The report covers much other ground, looking at funded pension schemes when it concludes that prosperity comes not just from present work, but also from the accumulated capital that has been inherited from past work, and there is no-one to pay for our own pensions except ourselves.

The main conclusions of the report are that the biggest problems lying ahead are the social and economic consequences of the increase in the number of dependent pensioners and the strains this will place on the State pension scheme (particularly the earnings related component); the future relationship between the State and private occupational pension schemes; the future of final salary schemes in particular, and whether pension funds should be used to assist the achievement of social and economic objectives of the State.

LB

# A better way to change jobs

The Cabinet review of the social security system which will emerge as a "Green Paper" with white edges in June is expected to pave the way for portable pensions. Although the Social Security Bill wending its way through Parliament is designed to ease the plight of job-changers who leave behind frozen pensions, it does not offer all the way to creating true mobility of pensions.

Under the new law due to come into effect in January 1986, pension schemes will have to offer leavers a transfer value. This can be taken to the new employer's scheme, used to buy an annuity contract from an insurance company (a buy-

out bond or Section 32 contract), or it can be left behind in the old scheme to be updated by 5 per cent a year compounded or the rise in prices if it is less.

The fourth option, to invest in a personal portable pension, is what the current review is examining. Pension companies are already trying to anticipate legislation, and be ready when the changes come. Save & Prosper has brought its group retirement account under the wing of the personal retirement account, so now the self-employed, employees whose company does not have a pension scheme, company pension schemes and additional voluntary contributions to top up a

company scheme can all be covered by the same money-purchase pension plan.

But any notion of portability is purely illusory. There is still an impenetrable barrier between self-employed and company schemes. You still cannot take a pension entitlement with you when you leave a company scheme and put it into your own pension pot.

But if your company has a Save & Prosper or Equity & Law pension plan and you become self-employed, these companies will waive a new set of front-end charges if you start a self-employed contract with them. You will continue to build up units in the same fund as the company scheme, but the company and self-employed sections will remain separate.

The end of the rainbow when you can cart off the pension entitlement, plumped up with company contributions into your personal portable pension, is still a long way away.

VG

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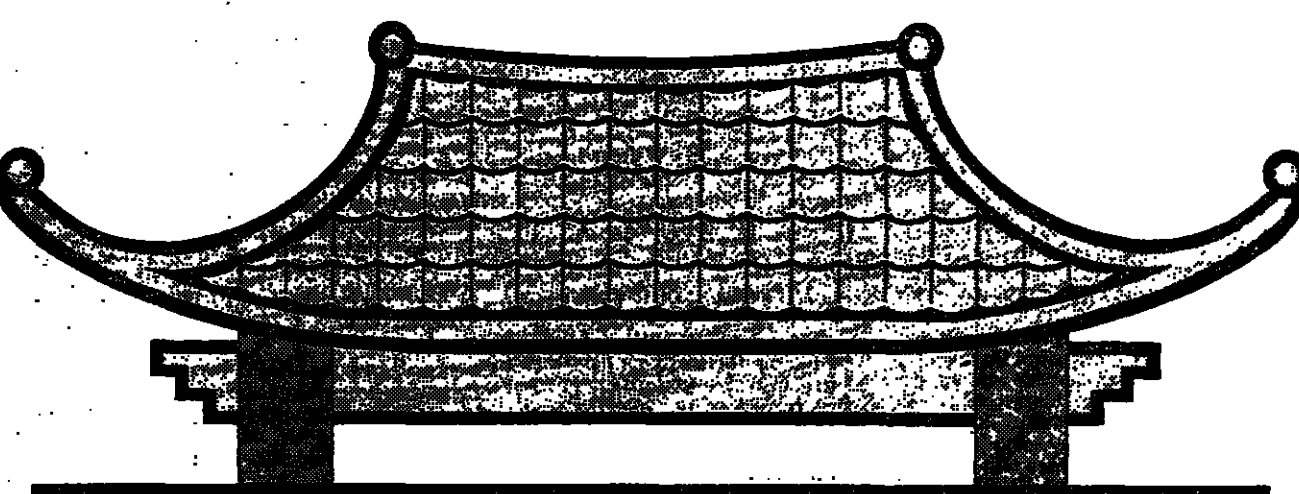
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# INVEST NOW IN THE GATEWAY TO CHINA



"Fa tsai, Fa tsai (Get rich, Get rich!)"

The Mandarin words above are those of Wang Guang Ying, talking to local businessmen about the bright and rosy future for Hong Kong. Mr. Wang should know what he is talking about: he was sent to Hong Kong by the Chinese government to run the first private company it has sanctioned since the revolution. Its business is trade with China (an estimated US\$600 million this year).

Mr. Wang's exhortation could probably apply equally as well to people investing in Hong Kong. This colony, positioned east of the Pearl River estuary, was originally occupied in 1841 for the prime purpose of trading with China.

Following the signing of the Sino-British Declaration on 27 December 1984, the future of Hong Kong seems assured. Like its past, that future will be as the "gateway to China", the largest untapped market in the world - with more than one billion consumers.

## HONG KONG - ALREADY BENEFITTING FROM THE CHINA SYNDROME

China is already the second largest market for Hong Kong products - and as China's economy takes off, Hong Kong can look forward to unlimited opportunities for trade in goods and services.

## Stockmarket rising

This prospect has already brought about a marked resurgence in Hong Kong's economic fortunes - with the Hang Seng Index (before any income is reinvested) up 48.8% over the 12 months to 1st May 1985 (Source: Money Management). A truly impressive rise - but surely just the start of something much, much bigger!

## High-rise for property?

Life has been restored to the Hong Kong property market too, with analysts predicting that the profits of property companies will rise by at least 25% this year.

## US Investment

The Americans, who are the largest investors in Hong Kong, have some US\$ 3 to 4 billion invested in fields such as finance, transportation and manufacturing.

## Japanese Investment

Japan accounts for a quarter of the total overseas investment in Hong Kong industry. To quote the specialist publication, Resident Abroad -

"The Japanese are looking forward to Hong Kong's unification with the People's Republic of China. With a potential market of 1.2 billion Chinese, they'd be foolish not to get a foot in the door. After all, you only need to sell a bottle of orangeade per person in the PRC to do very nicely, thank you, so just think what sales of Sony Walkmans could be like."

## Financial Institutions

Hong Kong's role in the development of trade with China has not been lost on foreign banks - particularly American, European and Japanese ones, who are moving into Hong Kong eager to cash-in on the China Syndrome and help finance what promises to be a highly prosperous business.

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As a member of the largest banking group in the territory, the managers have unparalleled connections in Hong Kong and China - which make them uniquely qualified to respond instantly to any changes in market conditions.

The largest member of the group, the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, has five branches in China - and its Shanghai office has remained open throughout war and revolution, to the present day. The bank also issues most of the bank notes in Hong Kong - so investing in the Wardley Hong Kong Trust is rather like having your British investments managed by the Bank of England!

## OBJECTIVE AND STRATEGY

The objective is to achieve long-term capital growth through an actively managed portfolio of shares in companies that will benefit directly or indirectly from the growing trade between Hong Kong and the People's Republic of China.

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In view of the volatile nature of the Hong Kong stockmarket, it is likely that the managers will, on occasions, invest in fixed interest securities and other appropriate investments, as a defensive measure.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Launch date: The Trust, which was formed on 15th September 1983, was launched on 11th May 1985.

Dealing in units: Units may be bought at their Offer price on any business day (the initial Offer price is at a 10% discount to the \$100). A Contract Note will be sent immediately your application is received and your Unit Certificate will follow within the next 42 days. When you sell your units, payment will be made at their Bid price, normally within 7 days of the receipt of your renewed Unit Certificate.

Prices and yields: The current prices and yields are quoted daily in the Daily Telegraph and the Financial Times.

Income: The estimated gross yield on 11th May 1985 was 2.0% per annum. Net income is distributed annually on 30th April.

Charges: An initial charge of 8% (out of which commission is paid to qualified intermediaries, the rates being available on request) is deducted from the consideration. An annual management charge of 0.2% (plus VAT) of the value of the Trust is deducted from the income (or capital, if there is insufficient income).

Sale proceeds: The Trust is authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry and is a wider range investment under the Trustee Investments Act, 1962. The Trustee is Lloyd's Bank Plc. 71 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3BP.

Investment Managers: Wardley Investment Services Limited, 12th Floor, Bank of America Tower, Harcourt Road, Hong Kong. Management Company: Wardley Unit Trust Managers Limited, Reg. No. 2290845 England, Registered Office: Wardley House, 7, Lombard Street, London EC2N 4BN. A member of the Unit Trust Association.

## THE CHINA FACT FILE

Population: 1,084,950,000 (Dec '83) - some 22.8% of the world's population. The largest national population on earth.

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Special Economic Zones: 14 coastal cities, plus four Special Economic Zones created, where foreign owned businesses are permitted - and joint ventures between foreign and Chinese investors are actively encouraged. Foreign investment is even permitted in the development of the Special Economic Zones themselves.

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## Perils of the 'name' game

### INSURANCE

A lot of people stand to lose a lot of money as "names" in Lloyd's of London, the international insurance market. The lessons are already being taken to heart by other investors.

The catastrophic meaning of "unlimited liability" when things go wrong for names - the wealthy individuals who back Lloyd's - has been brought home with a vengeance.

The 1,500 names involved in the Richard Beckett underwriting agency were told this week that they faced losses of around £130 million. Most of this will fall on only about 400 or 500 of them, however, and it is already clear that a number of these people will not only be made bankrupt but should never have been Lloyd's names in the first place.

"One of my clients, a young farmer, will undoubtedly be ruined," said Mr David Evers, a Lloyd's members' agent. "He transferred to my agency last year after several years as a name, but he should not have become a name at all."

The farmer, says Mr Evers, has very little income and has thus paid no tax for seven years despite the fact that he could satisfy the Lloyd's minimum requirement of £100,000 "readily realisable assets".

Since his wealth was all capital - his farm - not income, the farmer is not able to take advantage of the valuable tax concessions open to Lloyd's names. Names can offset underwriting losses against tax on earned income.

During each of the first three years of underwriting, for example, they can offset any losses against the previous three years of tax payments - in effect, they can claim a tax repayment to cover their loss at Lloyd's. But the farmer, in common with other names in the Beckett agency, has no tax against which to balance his loss.

"If any new applicants to become names are relying on Lloyd's to provide them with their whole income, they probably should not be doing it," said Mr Evers.

He added: "The huge losses on the Richard Beckett syndicates will certainly persuade some people who were applying to become names this year to withdraw. None of those I have been dealing with have formally withdrawn so far, but they may simply stop answering my letters and drop the whole process."

Ironically, the losses have come to light just at the time when Lloyd's is keen to attract large numbers of new members to boost its underwriting capacity. A few months ago Lloyd's had hoped to attract 2,500 to 3,000 new members this year.

Existing members, meanwhile, are rushing to protect themselves. The accepted method is to take out a "stop loss" insurance policy which will pay a proportion of any losses that arise. Since 1971 the premiums on such policies have also been offsettable against tax, but the concept has been slow to catch on among names and their agents.



Lloyd's of London: An investment only for the wealthy and knowledgeable

"Last year about 30 per cent of my clients had stop loss policies," said Mr Evers. "This year every single one of them does. I would not agree to manage a name who did not have a stop-loss policy."

Many agents, however, have started arranging stop loss cover in block policies for 200 or 300 clients at a time, which allows them to negotiate cheaper premium rates with the insurer. But the policies are still only a partial protection.

A typical policy would give

around £30,000 of cover, but only after the name had paid the first £30,000 of the loss himself. And if the loss exceeds £60,000 the name will still have to pay the excess over £60,000.

Probably the best kind of insurance a name can have against the possibility of spectacular and catastrophic losses is to get good advice. In a market as complicated and arcane as Lloyd's, it is clearly difficult for members to tell if the advice they are getting is sound, but the first step is to

find a reliable members' agent. He will not only guide a potential name through the complicated application procedure but will advise on how to place his risk within Lloyd's.

This means directing him towards good managing agents, the people who run the actual underwriting syndicates. A good members' agent will almost certainly advise a client to divide his investment between several managing agents and therefore, by definition, between many syndicates.

The dangers of not spreading the risk are again spelled out by the Richard Beckett debacle. It has become clear that many of the worst hit names had virtually all their investments in that one managing agency, and worse - into the agency's syndicate 918 which has incurred the lion's share of the loss. With well over 400 syndicates operating in Lloyd's, names have ample opportunity of limiting their involvement in any single syndicate.

The other essential duty of a members' agent is to make sure that his clients really are the right kind of investors for Lloyd's.

Richard Thomson

## Surveyors' survival fight

Chartered surveyors in the business of selling houses are painfully aware that their grip on the market is being loosened by the weight of competition coming their way. If they are to fight off competition from publicly quoted estate agents, non-chartered surveyors, banks, building societies and solicitors, they will have to change.

A report on this subject commissioned by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors makes unpleasant reading for its members. The consultants, Management Analysis Centre, say that selling houses is not professional activity, it is a business and new skills in management and, most important, marketing, are needed.

The pressure from outsiders to obtain a share of the £400 million residential agency market, which is growing at about 5 per cent a year, is intense. And the trend for existing firms to join up or be taken over by some of the quoted firms, such as Balfour Beatty, Mann & Co, is likely to intensify as competition heats up.

Building and developers are increasingly doing their own marketing, cutting out the chartered surveyor and his fees.

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# Tyndall

## Legal battle over premiums deadline

More than 100,000 people who believe they have policies which beat the abolition of life insurance premium relief in the 1984 Budget are at the centre of a bitter row between the insurance companies and the Inland Revenue.

More than a year after LAPR was swept away, the life offices are arguing with the Revenue about which policies beat the deadline. The argument is lodged in contract law. The Revenue claims that a policy came into force only when an acceptance letter was issued; the insurance companies regard themselves as "on risk" from the time the proposal form was completed and the first premium paid.

One company, Colonial Mutual, has already paid out on a 15-year Homebuilder low-cost endowment policy taken out on March 12 by Mr. Edmund McCabe and his wife to buy their council house, near Manchester.

Mr McCabe, aged 53, died of a heart attack on March 18, 1984, but as the £28 net (£33 gross) premium for the £7,000 policy had already been paid, the company paid out, although the policy had not been issued. Colonial Mutual has 4,000 policies with £1 million annual premium income, which the Inland Revenue is disputing. The disputed policies are coming to light as the annual audits of LAPR are conducted.

Every month the life offices put in a claim for the tax relief deducted from premiums. This money has been withheld on disputed policies.

The Life Offices Association is taking legal advice with a test case in mind. "The industry is not going to give up its stance on this," said a spokesman.

While some companies have talked about giving clients the option of paying premiums gross (without 15 per cent tax

relief) or getting their premiums refunded if their policies are disallowed, it is expected that the companies will have to bear the cost - not just on premiums already paid but for the whole span of the contract.

At the Prudential more than 2,000 policies were in the pipeline either because the company was awaiting medical evidence or because the policy was lodged in the computer on Budget day last year. March 13th but acceptances were not sent out until March 14th. The Revenue has disqualified them but the Pru is bearing the cost of LAPR. "We thought the policies lodged in the computer on the 13th should have been all right," said Reg Brown, the business manager. "but we were not able to budge the Inland Revenue on this because the acceptances were not posted until the next day."

However, the Revenue has agreed that acceptance letters are not normal practice in industrial business where premiums are handed over in cash to a regular collector. So last-minute Budget day (1984) contracts are being honoured for LAPR by the Revenue if they come into this category.

Equitable Life is also in an advantageous position, because it specifies that it is on risk as soon as the paperwork is completed.

Friendly societies have a double problem. Not only do disputed policies stand to lose the tax concession, but because the Budget brought down the sum assured limit from £2,000 to £750, the whole policy is likely to be invalid.

That, of course, could be an advantage for the policyholder who will not be saddled with paying gross premiums for a policy that was taken out only to take advantage of LAPR.

Vivien Goldsmith

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FAMILY MONEY/4

# It pays to shop around for store credit

## CHARGE CARDS

Shoppers are pretty cute when it comes to hunting down a bargain. They will pace the length of Oxford Street to save a few pounds. Yet these same shoppers turn a blind eye to the cost of credit offered on store credit cards.

Buying goods at one department store rather than another can mean an extra 60 per cent on the cost of credit. The difference between paying 1.65 per cent a month at John Lewis and 2.5 per cent a month at Debenhams may seem trivial, but these flat monthly charges work out at annual percentage rates of 21.6 per cent and 34.4 per cent.

"Credit cards are not price-sensitive," said a Debenhams spokesman. "They are seen as a convenience. People get the feeling of being a member of a club, and there is a little bit of status attached."

Debenhams includes Harvey Nichols and Hamleys, the Regent Street toyshop, all of which have their own cards which can be used in the other

Debenhams stores. The cards are run by an associate company, Welbeck Finance, which boasts 700,000 account customers for the group's 67 stores.

Debenhams' customers get special shopping evenings at sale times and Christmas, plus two 10 per cent discount weeks. And as the Home Centre financial supermarkets develop, account customers can expect special deals on savings plans, insurance and the like.

After the rise last July, Debenhams introduced a preferential rate for those willing to sign a variable direct debit to pay off the minimum amount, of £5 or 5 per cent (whichever is the larger).

But although outstanding debts are charged at 29.8 per cent rather than 34.4 per cent (APR), just 12 per cent of account holders signed up.

The remaining 88 per cent may have thought of clearing their debts monthly, thus getting free credit for up to 56 days, but only 40 per cent of customers at Debenhams actually do this.

Debenhams accepts Access and Barclaycard, where the

HURRY! USED TO TAKE HOURS CHOOSING NEW SHOES - NOW SHE'S AGGRAVATED OVER WHICH CREDIT CARD TO USE



basic rate is even lower - 26.8 per cent APR, so customers would be better off with one of these. Customers at John Lewis and Marks & Spencer do not have that option, as the stores will not accept other credit cards. John Lewis charges one of the lowest rates. "It is part of our policy of giving good value," said a spokesman. M & S has pitched its interest rate above the Access/Barclaycard rate. This has been no deterrent. Over 480,000 accounts have been opened, with 40 per cent of them having a second card. Comparing rates between store cards can be misleading.

because they are all expensive in relation to other sources of finance. The only plastic card is gold cards such as the American Express "Gold Card", Visa, Premier card, and the Midland Bank's Mastercard Gold, which offer unsecured overdrafts at 2.5 per cent over bank base rate (currently 12.5-12.75 per cent).

But gold card country is pretty exclusive. You need an income of £15,000 at the Royal Bank of Scotland or £20,000 at Barclays and £25,000 at Lloyds. There is also a joining fee of between £10 and £20 (except for the Midland) and annual subscriptions of £35 to £50.

But if you know you will want an overdraft soon it is worth trying to jump aboard. Otherwise you can expect to pay between 3 per cent and 5 per cent over base after the usual painful negotiations with the bank manager.

But although credit from other sources is much cheaper, credit cards do offer a tantalizing flexibility, and the lure of up to 56 days' interest-free credit. Access and Barclaycard now have more than 15 million cardholders, with more than half of them paying interest.

## CREDIT CARD COSTS

Card	Flat monthly rate %	APR %	APR % cash
John Lewis	1.65	21.6	
Harrods	1.75	25.3	
Barclaycard	2.5	27.2	
Visa	2.5	27.2	
Access	2.5	27.2	
Austin Reed	2.5	27.2	
Marks & Spencer	2.5	27.2	
Boots	2.5	27.2	
C & A	2.5	27.2	
Selfridges	2.5	27.2	
Debenhams	2.5	34.4	
Burtons	2.75	38.5	

\* Lower rate for clearing minimum by variable direct debit

Barclaycard makes a 1½ per cent handling charge, then follows the same procedure for purchases by having an interest-free interval if you settle the account in full by the due date.

Access does not have a handling charge, but interest clocks on from the day you get the money. This is why the interest in APR terms is different for the two cards, although the flat monthly charge is 2 per cent in both cases.

Vivien Goldsmith

# Don't dump that old junk - it could earn a fortune

The recent sale in New York of the late Florence J. Gould's art collection, where the highest price ever was recorded for an Impressionist painting set many wondering how much their own furniture and objects are worth, and if they are insured adequately.

Not everyone has Van Gogh's cornfield scene, *Landscap with Rising Sun*, which sold for \$9.9 million, but many former household items are now collector's pieces. For example, the owner of an express toy locomotive found it, with other Marklin items, wrapped in newspaper while she was clearing out a garden shed before moving house.

He was planning to throw them away, but as a precaution went to a local "advisory day" run by Sotheby's Pulborough office. Alister Morris, one of Sotheby's experts, immediately identified the important maker and suggested that the owner should include the pieces in a collector's sale. The lot made £550 on February 6.

The leading auction houses can be contacted by writing to their main offices, to their regional offices where general advisers will forward details to the specialist concerned, or through their open days. "Christie's encourages anyone with antiques to bring objects into its offices at 8 King Street, London, SW1Y 6QT (tel: 01-839 9060) any day between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday or to its South Kensington saleroom at 85 Old Brompton Road, London SW7.

The company has 22 regional offices in Britain and a quarterly programme of outside open days. "We pioneered the 'Going for a Song' concept," says Paul Whitfield, of Christie's.

The firm has marked the backs of paintings since 1812 with a code, such as "678 AB", which means the owner can contact the company and be

advised on what date it was sold, the auction price, and details of the artist and painting.

If forwarding a photograph of the object in question, black and white is preferred to colour, and it is vital to give the dimensions of the piece on the reverse of the photograph.

Mr Whitfield recalls how a couple visited the Burrell collection in Glasgow and

the attic. It turned out to be by Bernardo Bellotto, Canaletto's son-in-law. It sold for £102,600.

Sotheby's welcomes subjects from Monday to Friday at 34 New Bond Street, London, W1A 2AA (tel: 01-493 6080) and at its two regional sale rooms at Chester and Pulborough. Its 13 provincial offices will arrange visits to see furniture. Paintings sold by Sotheby's are identified with numbers in yellow chalk on the reverse.

Objects are not always found in direct ways. In early July Sotheby's will offer a gold and tortoiseshell pique *bolin*, a *ballon* from the mid-18th century. It was rescued by a dustman from a dustcart. It is estimated to realise £1,500-£1,800.

For insurance valuations, Christie's charges, on a time basis, usually 1.5 per cent plus VAT up to a scale value of £50,000. The same fee applies to written quotations for probate and capital transfer tax purposes.

Sotheby's valuation manager, John Slanciff, charges 1.5 per cent on the first £10,000 valued, 1 per cent on £10,001-£100,000, 0.5 per cent thereafter, with VAT and travelling expenses added on. There is a refund if items are sold within a year of completing the valuation.

Phillips, at 7 Blenheim Street, off New Bond Street, London, W1 (tel: 01-629 6602), has 15 offices apart from its three in the capital. Phillips opens from Monday to Friday, and on Saturday mornings. For a visit to a house, a charge of about £20 plus VAT is made, but this is refunded if goods are sold through the firm.

Written valuations cost 1.5 per cent on the first £10,000, 1 per cent on the next £90,000 and 0.5 per cent above this, plus VAT and out-of-pocket expenses.

Conal Gregory



This vase used as a table lamp fetched £421,000

## Tumbledown builders

The business climate has not improved for many companies during the past few weeks, according to Trade Indemnity, the credit insurance company. It reports that its policyholder notified it of 322 business failures during April, an increase of 12.2 per cent on April 1984. Since the start of this year the total number of business failures notified to Trade Indemnity now stands at 1,374 - an increase of 5.4 per cent on the first four months of last year.

But the majority of failures were limited to certain industrial sectors. Building and construction company failures in the first four months rose almost 26 per cent, while the services sector saw an increase of 37.5 per cent. Other sections, however, showed a reduction. The best was the furniture and upholstery sector where failures dropped almost 20 per cent to 113 in the first four months of this year.

Geographically, the picture is more depressing, with virtually all areas of the country showing an increase. The main exception to this was East Anglia where the number of reported business failures dropped by an impressive 16.7 per cent, compared with the first four months of last year.

Trade Indemnity says that the movement in total business failures has been on an upward trend since April 1984, and gloomily concludes that there is little sign of a reduction.

Richard Thomson

## WHERE TO GET VALUATION

Date	Location	Gen. valuation day
May 23	Sheffield	Furniture, paint, tape, silver
23	Dorchester	Furniture, paint, tape, silver
23	Bury St Edmunds	Ceramics, pictures, tape, silver
24	Woodstock	Jewellery, tape, silver
28	Winchester	Jewellery, tape, silver
29	Stratford Saye	Gen. valuation day
29	Herts	Paints, watercolours, pictures, tape, silver
30	Brighthelm	Scrapes, pictures, tape, silver
June 3	Nottingham	Scrapes, pictures, tape, silver
4	Stratford	Gen. valuation day
4	Newcastle	Gen. valuation day
5	Norwich	Scientific instruments, tape, silver
11	Goodwood	Gen. valuation day
11	Salisbury	Ceramics, glass, tape, silver
12	Cardiff	Ceramics, glass, tape, silver
18	Widnes	Scrapes, pictures, tape, silver
21	Southport	Scrapes, pictures, tape, silver
26	York	Paints, watercolours, pictures, tape, silver
26	Norwich	Gen. valuation day
July 1	Derby	Ceramics, glass, tape, silver
2	Cardiff	Scrapes, pictures, tape, silver
11	Norwich	Scrapes, pictures, tape, silver

S. Sotheby's, G. Christie's, P. Phillips

noticed a blue and white Chinese vase which looked similar to one they had at home, in use as a table lamp. They took it into Christie's Glasgow office, where it was identified as a 14th-century pear-shaped late Yuan vase. They had inherited it from an uncle. It was bought by a Hong Kong collector for £421,000.

Also unexpected was the outcome of a visit to a remote country house. Christie's expert found a painting rolled up in

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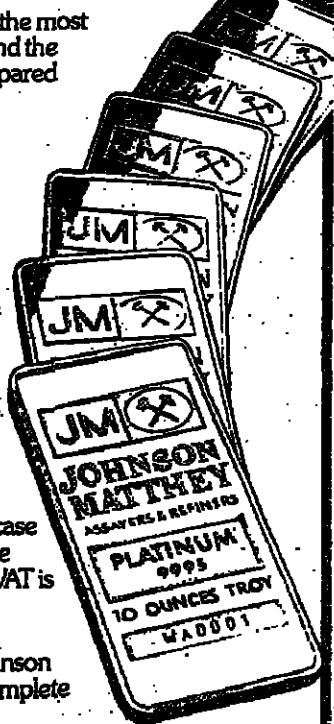
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To reverse the trend, Sun Life is launching the Professional Series of Portfolios as part of a strategy specifically designed to encourage the new investor.

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# THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money started. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Div	Yld	P/E
<b>BUILDING AND ROADS</b>						
1	Wimpey (George)	210	0	0	0	0
2	Watts	100	0	0	0	0
3	Burnet & Hallam	100	0	0	0	0
4	Moak (A)	100	0	0	0	0
5	Higgs & Hill	100	0	0	0	0
6	Pickens Timber	100	0	0	0	0
7	Radford	100	0	0	0	0
8	RPI Industries	100	0	0	0	0
9	RMC	100	0	0	0	0
10	Cotton	100	0	0	0	0
<b>INDUSTRIALS A-D</b>						
11	Cape Ind	100	0	0	0	0
12	Barradell	100	0	0	0	0
13	Bentford (SW)	100	0	0	0	0
14	Bulfinch	100	0	0	0	0
15	Baynes (Charles)	100	0	0	0	0
16	Brawley	100	0	0	0	0
17	Applied Comp Tech	100	0	0	0	0
18	Advent	100	0	0	0	0
19	Birmingham Mnt	100	0	0	0	0
20	Renfild	100	0	0	0	0
<b>DRAPERY AND STORES</b>						
21	Debenhams	100	0	0	0	0
22	Debenhams (D)	100	0	0	0	0
23	Debenhams (A)	100	0	0	0	0
24	Debenhams (M)	100	0	0	0	0
25	Debenhams (S)	100	0	0	0	0
26	Debenhams (T)	100	0	0	0	0
27	Debenhams (U)	100	0	0	0	0
28	Debenhams (V)	100	0	0	0	0
29	Debenhams (W)	100	0	0	0	0
30	Debenhams (X)	100	0	0	0	0
<b>INDUSTRIALS E-K</b>						
31	Johnson Matthey	100	0	0	0	0
32	Kerridge (A)	100	0	0	0	0
33	Fisons	100	0	0	0	0
34	Hanson	100	0	0	0	0
35	Glyndwr	100	0	0	0	0
36	Fosco-Metap	100	0	0	0	0
37	Jackson (J & H)	100	0	0	0	0
38	Heworth	100	0	0	0	0
39	Hawker Siddeley	100	0	0	0	0
40	Kalamazoo	100	0	0	0	0

Weekly Dividend						
MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	TOTAL
100	100	100	100	100	100	600

1985 High Low Stock Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

SHORTS (Under Five Years)						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

UNDATED						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDEX-LINKED						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

BREWERIES						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

BANKS DISCOUNT HP						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

ELECTRICALS						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS A-D						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS E-K						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS L-R						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS S-Z						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS A-K						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS L-R						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS S-Z						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS A-K						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS L-R						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS S-Z						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

## STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

# Market falls back

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, May 13. Dealings End, May 31. Contango Day, June 3. Settlement Day, June 10.  
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E
100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100

BUILDING AND ROADS						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

FINANCE AND LAND						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

CINEMAS AND TV						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

DRAPERY AND STORES						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS A-D						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E
100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100

FINANCE AND LAND						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

FOODS						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

HOTELS AND CATERERS						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS A-D						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS E-K						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS L-R						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E
100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100

INDUSTRIALS E-K						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS L-R						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS S-Z						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS A-K						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS L-R						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS S-Z						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E
100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100

INDUSTRIALS E-K						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS L-R						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS S-Z						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS A-K						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS L-R						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS S-Z						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E
100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100

INDUSTRIALS E-K						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS L-R						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS S-Z						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS A-K						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS L-R						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS S-Z						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

## THE TIMES Portfolio

DAILY DIVIDEND  
£2,000  
Claims required for +41 points

WEEKLY DIVIDEND  
£40,000  
Claims required for +176 points

1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E	1985 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Div Yld P/E
100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100

INDUSTRIALS E-K						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

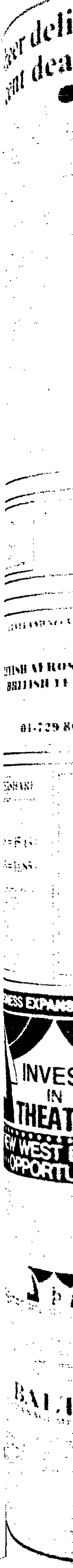
INDUSTRIALS L-R						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS S-Z						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS A-K						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS L-R						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS S-Z						
100	100	100	100	100	100	100





FAMILY MONEY/5

# Sheer delight: Only 10 per cent dearer in 10 years

Last month's retail price index revealed a jump of just under one point to 63 per cent on an annual basis. Immediately thoughts return to the bad old days of the mid-seventies when it ran at more than 20 per cent at one point.

Inflation is the Aunt Sally of the middle classes, but exactly how has it affected prices since the pre-oil crisis days of 1970? Are we better, or worse off?

For a start, average earnings, according to government figures, have far outstripped the Retail Price Index. Since 1971, according to the Department of Employment, average earnings have grown by 443 per cent - while RPI has increased by a much more modest 340 per cent.

The RPI, however, has only tenuous links with what may be termed real spending - which for most of the middle class includes the cost of houses, the car, and private education. Set against the RPI, life for this sector of the population has become more expensive in real terms than it was in 1970.

According to the Building Societies Association, the average price of a house, nationwide, has grown from £5,650 in 1971 to nearly £30,000 last year - a rise of 424 per cent - outstripping the RPI, but just beneath the rise in average earnings.

On the other hand, the

## HOW PRICES HAVE MOVED

	1970	1985	% rise
Food	8.5p	52.5p	+517
Tea (4lb)	5.0p	31p	+520
Bread (loaf)	17.0p	60p	+253
Frozen chicken (7lb)	46.0p	800p	+552
Strain beef (11lb)			

average mortgage has increased only slightly more than the RPI since 1975. In that year the average borrower was £7,479 in debt to his building society manager - by 1984 he was borrowing £20,354. This is an increase of 172 per cent, against a rise in the RPI of 161 per cent. It compares also with an increase of 184 per cent in average earnings and a rise of 148 per cent in the cost of houses over the same period.

A car may be considered by some to be a luxury item, but for most it is regarded as an essential, if not a right. Figure from the Automobile Association show that the cost of maintaining your wheels has increased by more than the rate of inflation. The cost of an average car in terms of petrol, servicing and depreciation in 1970 was estimated at £496 a year. In 1984 it was £2,636 - a rise of 430 per cent, well above the rise in the RPI.

According to the AA you could run a Rolls Royce for £795 a year in 1970. Now it

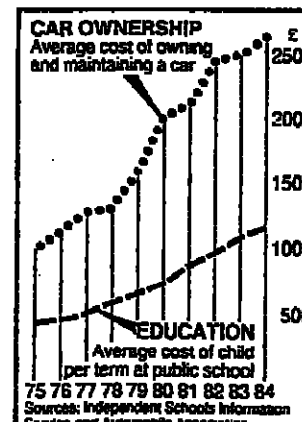
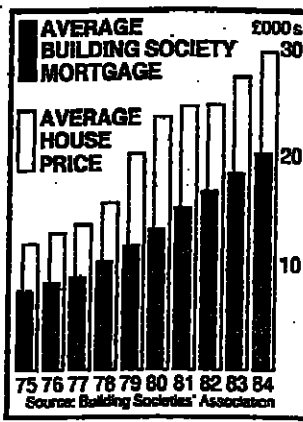
Running inflation tight. In 1970 a pair of tights cost 50p; now you may pay only 5p more.

costs £900 to run a Mini. Cars are more expensive to run in real terms.

The average manual worker has to work 186 hours to pay his annual petrol bill, against 136 hours in 1970. And the average motorist has, apparently, reacted to this increase in real costs by cutting back on mileage and servicing. He now does less

than 9,000 miles a year, compared with 12,000 in 1970 and only 50 per cent of drivers go to a garage for a service, against 60 per cent in 1970.

Another middle class problem is education. In 1973, according to figures from the Independent Schools Information Service (ISIS), the average cost of fees per term in



a boarding school was £272. Last year the figure was £1,167 - an increase of 329 per cent. The increase in the RPI over the same period was 276 per cent - and the rise in average earnings 323 per cent.

The cost of housing, running cars and private education may have outstripped the rise in the Retail Price Index over the past 15 years, but some items of expenditure have decreased in real terms. The department store group John Lewis has produced some comparative figures for basic goods.

A pair of lady's tights, for instance, retailed at the equivalent of 50p in 1970. Fifteen years' later they cost just 5p, a rise of only 10 per cent.

In the early 1970's a standard LP record retailed for 59p6d - just under £3 in today's money. The most you would pay for the equivalent nowadays is £6 - a rise of 100 per cent - and the chances are you could find it discounted to £5 or less.

One of the best bargains, inflation wise, is the cost of

package holidays. Thomson Holidays' 1970 brochure showed a seven nights stay on the Costa Brava at £28. The price in its 1985 brochure is £69 - a rise of just 146 per cent - half the rate of inflation over the same period.

On the other hand, the cost of a new car has increased in real terms. In 1970, according to the AA, a new Mini cost around £780 - now it costs £4,000 - a rise of over 400 per cent.

A bottle of wine sold in a restaurant for £1 in 1970 costs £7 now. Technology based goods, on the other hand, have come down in price, relatively speaking. In 1970 you could buy a standard record player for £5, according to John Lewis - now you would pay £27 - an increase of 250 per cent.

The table shows how the cost of basic foodstuffs has increased since 1970, according to statistics compiled by the Department of Employment, which looks after the RPI except battery chickens.

Maggie Drummond

## LAWSON

### PENNY SHARE FUND

During this offer, applications sent direct to the Managers will qualify for an extra allocation of units instead of agency commission. Any discount is borne by the Managers and does not affect the fund. The aim of the LAWSON PENNY SHARE FUND is capital growth. Investment is made in companies whose current share prices are low and under 100p. These include recovery situations, takeover targets, depressed stocks, smaller companies and emerging growth stocks. The portfolio includes Burslow Eves, Beheven Brewery, British Car Auctions, Carless Holdings, Cave Discount, Danne Cap, Edinburgh Financial Trust, Fine Art Developments, FKI, Fulgum Cap, Helene of London Ivory & Sme, Jove Cap, Mt Charlotte, Owners Abroad, Premier Oil, Queens Moat, Skavis, Hong Kong Land.

#### OFFER OF UNITS AT 16.1p UNTIL THURSDAY 30th MAY 1985

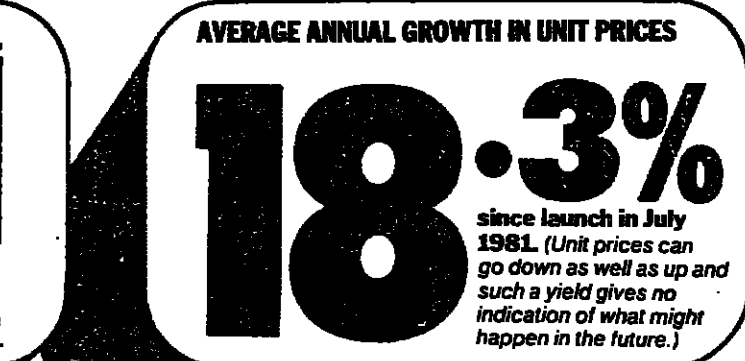
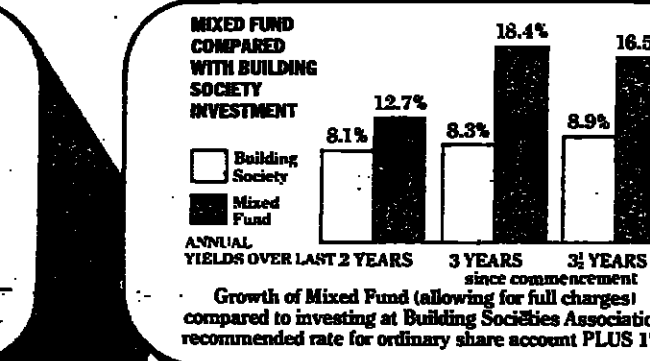
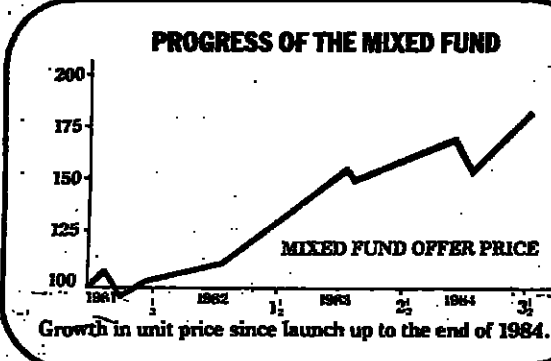
Estimated Annual Gross Yield 2.5%. The Managers reserve the right to close this offer if the price moves by more than 2%. Units will be allocated thereafter at the current price. During an offer units may be bought and sold daily - otherwise on Wednesdays. A wider range of units is authorised by the Department of Trade. The price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up. An initial charge of 6% is included in the price. A monthly fee of 0.125% - VAT is deducted from income. Trustee: Clydesdale Bank PLC. Auditors: Ernst & Whinney C A. Lawson Fund Managers Ltd, 43 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh EH2 4HL. 031-225 6001. Member of N.A.S.D.M.

Signature: Mr. Mrs. Miss. Surname: First Names (in full): Address:

## THE MAXIMUM GROWTH BOND

LINKED TO THE HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL SCOTTISH WIDOWS MIXED FUND

# OUTSTANDING GROWTH



## YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO INVEST IN SUCCESS!

If you're seeking a regular savings plan look no further than the Maximum Growth Bond from Scottish Widows' Fund and Life Assurance Society. It's an ideal way to build-up a really worthwhile capital sum - a capital sum free of Basic Rate Tax and Capital Gains Tax... to pay for your son's or daughter's wedding... for that new car... or the dream holiday you always promised yourself.

Whatever your reasons for saving - even if you're saving just for the sake of saving - the Maximum Growth Bond is for you. It's designed for the regular saver who wants to benefit from the performance of the Society's highly successful investment Funds... primarily the Mixed Fund.

Past performance speaks for itself. For example, the offer price of the Mixed Fund since launch has risen by 80%. That's an average annual growth rate of 18.3%.

It's consistent high performance like this - based on more than a century and a half of experience - that makes Scottish Widows so popular with professional advisers and the press.

### FOUR WAYS TO USE THE MAXIMUM GROWTH BOND

- 1 That future wedding or to give your children a good start in married life.**

The Maximum Growth Bond offers an opportunity to plan for that special day now... and avoid the embarrassment of not being able to give your children the start in married life you always hoped to be able to provide.
- 2 That new car**

An excellent means of building up a fund to ensure you have the cash required to buy the car you really want in a few years' time.
- 3 Add to your retirement income**

A lump sum and/or income could give you just the boost you need to be financially secure in retirement.
- 4 A dream holiday**

Let the Maximum Growth Bond provide the capital you will need to make that dream holiday become a reality.

**THE MAXIMUM GROWTH BOND**

At the outset you decide the initial term - any period from 5 to 10 years.

The minimum investment is just £30 a month. The potential for investment growth is considerable and there is no limit on the sum you may regularly save - £30, £40, £50, £100 or more each month.

Your regular investment secures units in the high-performing Mixed Fund. The Fund is invested in a balanced portfolio of domestic and overseas ordinary shares, fixed interest stocks, property and, when appropriate, interest-bearing deposits.

**IMPORTANT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- In order to keep as large a proportion of your savings as possible actually invested, the Society's current charge for Fund management is just 1% per annum of the Fund's value.
- The Fund is divided into equal units, the value of each unit depending on the total value of the Fund and the number of units in it. The offer price is the price at which new units are allocated and is approximately 5% higher than the bid price which is used when

The Bond also offers six additional specialised Funds and you will be able to switch your investments into one or more of these at any time.

The Mixed Fund, however, is ideal for savers who demand good investment performance but prefer to leave all investment decisions to the experts.

The past growth record of the Mixed Fund is impressive - and is certainly reassuring; but what about the future?

The table below shows illustrations of the amount you could accumulate at the end of the term based on a range of possible investment returns... and it shows the percentage of your investment allocated for growth. The remainder provides guaranteed life assurance protection and pays certain management expenses.

The higher your investment and the longer the term... the greater the growth potential. Indeed, in some cases 100% or more of your savings is invested in units.

SEE HOW MUCH YOU COULD RECEIVE FROM A MAXIMUM GROWTH BOND

Monthly investment	5-year Term	10-year Term
£30	97.0 1882 2133	97.5 4305 5598
£40	97.0 2510 2844	97.5 5740 7464
£50	98.0 3202 3628	99.5 7323 9522
£75	98.0 4803 5442	99.5 10984 14283
£100	100.0 6470 7330	100.5 14793 19235

The accumulated amounts assume the annual rates of growth in the unit price will be as shown. It is important to note that in the past the Mixed Fund has grown by substantially more than these figures - but unit prices can go down as well as up. The figures are illustrations only, they should not be regarded as estimates; nor should they be viewed as the upper or lower limits of the possible outcome.

### VALUABLE LIFE PROTECTION BUILT-IN AND GUARANTEED

To provide protection for your family there is a minimum 'money-back' guarantee in the event of your death while you are still saving regularly.

The death benefit is 101% of the bid value of the units held... but subject to a minimum of the total of investments made if at the date of death you were still making regular investments.

No evidence of health is required, whatever your age, to qualify for this guaranteed protection.

### MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY

At the end of your chosen investment term you have three valuable options - all are completely free from Basic Rate Tax and Capital Gains Tax.

**Your cash option...**

the full value of your Bond units in cash - as illustrated above - to use in any way you wish.

**Your income option...**

a regular income - the perfect way to supplement a pension.

**Your extension option...**

simply maintain regular investments for a second term or leave your investment to grow - the Cash and Income Options will then be available to you at any time.

### TAX ADVANTAGES

The proceeds of your Bond are free from Basic Rate Tax and Capital Gains Tax - regardless of your personal tax rates while investing in the Bond.

There may be a liability to Higher Rate Tax on encashment if your income is high enough at the time. But this liability can arise only when cash is withdrawn from your Bond.

This makes a Maximum Growth Bond especially attractive not just for family savers but also for those nearing retirement - people paying Higher Rate Tax now, but who will be at most Basic Rate taxpayers when the proceeds are taken.

To give you greater investment flexibility your Bond will be divided into as many as 20 identical policies. This may help reduce any possible Higher Rate Tax liability by permitting encashment of some policies without affecting the rest of your Bond.

### SIMPLE APPLICATION

To invest in a Maximum Growth Bond - the maximum age at entry is 80 next birthday - simply decide how much you wish to invest each month and the term. Then post the completed application together with a cheque for your first investment to:

**SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND, FREEPOST, EDINBURGH, EH6 0NE** (no stamp is needed)

If you would like to ask your financial adviser to endorse your decision, please do so. Scottish Widows has an enviable reputation with financial advisers and we feel confident that your choice of the Maximum Growth Bond will be fully endorsed.

When we receive your application we shall send you a personalised illustration, booklet describing the Bond in detail and a Direct Debit Mandate for completion. All future monthly investments must be made by Direct Debit.

If, after reading about the Bond in detail, you decide it is not for you, simply write to us within 14 days and we shall return any payment already made in full.

### YOUR BENEFITS IN BRIEF...

- Maximum allocation to investment** - High allocation percentages independent of age and increased allocations for larger investments.
- Investment flexibility** - Choice of investment term from 5-10 years and option to continue investments for further period.
- Professional Investment Management** - For those seeking an outstanding return consistent with responsible management.
- Flexibility of Benefit** - Cash and regular income options... and no Basic Rate or Capital Gains Tax liability on Bond withdrawals.
- No Health Questions** - At least the total investments made are returned on death while saving.

**RETURN YOUR APPLICATION TODAY!**

### MAXIMUM GROWTH BOND APPLICATION

1 Name in full (BLOCK LETTERS) Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

Ordinary Residence

Postcode

Telephone No. (Home) (Business)

Date of Birth

2 INVESTMENT INSTRUCTIONS (tick as appropriate)

Monthly Investment by Direct Debit ☐ £20 (the minimum) ☐ £40 ☐ £50 ☐ £75 ☐ £100 or insert any other amount £ per month

Investment Term ☐ 5 years ☐ 6 years ☐ 7 years ☐ 8 years ☐ 9 years ☐ 10 years (the maximum)

3 DECLARATION

I wish to invest in the Mixed Fund. I apply for membership of Scottish Widows' Fund and Life Assurance Society and declare my accession to the Society's Act of Parliament and Regulations.

I enclose my cheque for £ Payable to 'Scottish Widows' in respect of the first monthly investment.

Signature Date 1985

Return your application together with a cheque for your first monthly investment direct to us (no stamp required). SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND, FREEPOST, EDINBURGH, EH6 0NE. Alternatively please return via your professional adviser. Name and address of your insurance broker or financial adviser, if any

**SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND**  
MAXIMUM GROWTH BOND

### SUPERSHARE

Variable rate of interest

NET INTEREST PER ANNUM

**10.80% = 15.43%**  
For amounts of £10,000 or more.

**10.40% = 14.85%**  
For amounts of £2,000 or more.

IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL subject to only 14 days' notice on savings certificates.

Member of the Building Societies Association and the Financial Services Commission. Authorised for investment by investors.

**LEAMINGTON SPA BUILDING SOCIETY**  
40 BOX 1, LEAMINGTON SPAS, CV32 5PE. Tel: (01926) 27950

### Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank 12 1/2%  
Adair & Company 12 1/2%  
Barclays 12 1/2%  
BCI 12 1/2%  
Citicredit Savings 12 1/2%  
Consolidated Crds 12 1/2%  
Continental Trust 12 1/2%  
C. Hoare & Co 12 1/2%  
Co-operative Bank 12 1/2%  
Lloyds Bank 12 1/2%  
Midland Bank 12 1/2%  
NTS 12 1/2%  
Westminster 12 1/2%  
Williams & Glyn's 12 1/2%  
Citibank NA 12 1/2%

1 Mortgage Base Rate.

### BUSINESS EXPANSION SCHEME

## INVEST IN THEATRE

### NEW WEST END BESIDE OPPORTUNITY

Theatre Productions PLC is a company formed to stage high quality theatrical productions, primarily in London's West End. Its first involvement will be in the new David Essex musical 'Mutiny', which opens in July. Details of 'Mutiny' and further planned productions are described in the prospectus referred to below.

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JUNE 30, 1923

The first FA Cup Final at Wembley, in 1923, is still perhaps the most famous, though this is because of the circumstances surrounding the match rather than because of the match itself.

# THE FA CUP BOLTON'S VICTORY

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Bolton Wanderers beat West Ham United in the Cup Final at the Wembley Stadium on Saturday by 2 goals to 0.

This build statement represents the result of the football match of a matter which has been discussed from many points of view for months. The fact that the Wembley Stadium has been advertised as the greatest of its kind had much to do with the enormous crowd, which came from all sorts and conditions of places to see the first FA Cup Final to be played there. The claims made for the stadium are not in the slightest degree extravagant. It was built to hold 125,000 people in comfort and to give to each and every one of that huge total a fair view of the football ground and track. The stadium can hold even more than that number, and yet give to all the spectators a fair view of the building and ground could accommodate 300,000 people, and at least that number must have turned up on Saturday at Wembley.

There are many reasons for the mammoth congregation of so many people at the stadium on Saturday. The opening of the stadium to the first FA Cup Final must have been an historic occasion. The fact that the stadium was built to hold 125,000 people, and yet give to all the spectators a fair view of the building and ground could accommodate 300,000 people, and at least that number must have turned up on Saturday at Wembley.

Except on two important points - the spirit of the crowd and of the police, and the absolute loyalty of a very mixed congregation, to the King - the day was an ugly one. Many ticket-holders never reached their seats; others got to their seats in plenty of time and were pushed out of them; whistles blew like steam on a steam train; the sheer weight of numbers sweeping irresistibly forward from behind. The crowd was out of hand, very often most unwillingly.

The playing ground on Saturday morning was a beautiful picture. Later on, there must have been tens of thousands of people on it at one time. It was defiled with orange peel and papers and refuse, but the surface "stood" the trampling of the mob, the police, and the hoofs of the horses of the mounted police most astonishingly well. By the help of large reinforcements of police, mounted and unmounted, and the players, who appeared right and left for fair play, the ground was gradually cleared, the people being pushed back to the touch-lines. That play could ever be begun and continue seemed at one time, quite impossible. That the seemingly impossible could and did happen was, one must believe, owing to the presence of the King, whose reception when he reached the ground was an event to remember.



David Jack: first goal

At 3.45 it was possible to kick off. Some 11 minutes later, a part of the crowd were squeezed on to the ground, but play was again possible after 10 minutes' patient work on the part of the police.

The game was started at a great pace, and the Bolton Wanderers scored after just two minutes' play. Nuttall dribbled up the field, half drew a man, and passed perfectly to Jack. Jack took the ball along slowly and feinted to pass out to Butler, when the pass looked as good as made. He dribbled inside to the left, went through the West Ham United defence at a great pace, and scored from close in with a hard, high shot into the right-hand corner of the net.

The teams did not leave the field at half-time, if they had done so the match would not have been finished on Saturday, but crossed over and resumed play after a five minutes' interval.

Pym saved two shots quietly and confidently and then came the movement that set the match on its feet. Ward nudged the ball down the wing, very close to the touch-line. Suddenly he kicked and ran, passed Bishop, and centred right across the goal mouth. J. R. Smith got to the ball, hit the inside of the crossbar and bounced out again into play. It was, however, a goal and the referee had not the slightest hesitation in ruling it as such. Even before the goal was scored the players were leaving the ground; now this rivulet swelled to a steady stream. The match, to all intents and purposes was over.

## Stuart Jones on today's FA Cup Final at Wembley



Wembley powerhouses: On the left, Atkinson (top), Robson (bottom) and Strachan. On the right, Steven, Kendall (top) and Ratcliffe (bottom).

## Best teamwork may not be quite good enough against United individuals

Amid the black clouds and the inquiries into the worst aspects of the game comes the brightest ray of sunshine and an afternoon that promises to be filled with the best of English football. Today's FA Cup Final between Everton, the holders, and Manchester United, who have been hailed in all quarters as a potential classic. The timing could not be more appropriate.

The showpiece will start in silence as thoughts are turned for a minute to those who died in the terrible tragedy at Bradford City a week ago. It will end amid the traditional tempest of noise and with a memory that will be immeasurably more appealing if not as lasting. A day of mourning should become an evening of celebration, whatever the outcome.

The prospect is fascinating. In the blue corner stand Everton, the finest team in the country. Within 18 months Howard Kendall has led them from the depths of despair to the threshold of history. No English club has ever completed the unlikely triple of League championship, FA Cup and a European trophy in the same season.

In the red corner stand United, the finest set of individuals in the land. Ron Atkinson has taken his talented and expensive assets towards the edge of greatness without ever reaching it. His club's lone triumph so far was the FA Cup two years ago and today represents their last chance of gaining a reward for their efforts during the elongated season.

Europe may have been frightened by Everton's performance in Rotterdam on Wednesday night. Over the last decade foreigners have become accustomed to trembling at the sight of one Merseyside club playing with fearsome assurance, confidence and fluency and here they were watching the other displaying similar qualities. They have seen nothing yet.

Rapid Vienna's challenge was little more than a feeble. In conceding the Cup Winners' Cup, they allowed Everton to overwhelm them. Mick Brown, Atkinson's assistant, confirms

described as dainty in their approach. Either, the final, like many of the fixtures between the nation's leading clubs, will crackle with the sound of thunderous tackles and shudder with the ferocious commitment that will inevitably be wrapped around it.

Such characteristics have long been the foundations of the English game but, within the sturdy iron framework, there will be enough soft touches of skill to delight the purists. They

Both sides have much to play for. United, once the poor country cousins, are a match for the best in Europe these days and have won many honours. But they have never taken the Scottish Cup. They are desperately hoping that this, their third year appearance in the final, will be the lucky day.

While United may be the most stylish team, Celtic, who hold the record number of Scottish Cup finals wins with 26, have, when they are in full

flow and spectacularly exploiting their traditional, all-action attack, the look of winners. Yet it has been a season of broken promises for Celtic - a championship challenge which petered out dismally, defeat in the Skol Cup by Dundee United and a sickening exit to Rapid Vienna in the European Cup Winners' Cup.

Only if Celtic regain their early-season form, when they played remarkable football, will they end two barren years without a trophy. Still, it should be one of the most intriguing finals in history.

### NEVILLE SOUTHALL

Goalkeeper. Previous club: Burnley. Age: 26.

England's outstanding right back. So says Brian Clough, who rates him above Anderson. May be given opportunity to prove the point by Bobby Robson during forthcoming internationals. One of only two members of Everton side to have started at bottom rung of Goodison Park ladder and climbed to the top.

### PAT VANDEN HAUWE

Left back. Previous club: Birmingham City. Age: 24.

Everton's latest arrival at a cost of £100,000. Born in Belgium and considered by England not close to doing the cup of Wales last month. Made debut at Birmingham when only 18.

### KEVIN RATCLIFFE (Captain)

Central defender. Previous club: None. Age: 24.

Captain of country as well as club, and leading Everton out at Wembley for fourth time within 14 months. His debut against Manchester United five years ago, but was later playing in reserves when first recognised by Wales. Reputed to be quickest in his position in Canon League.

### DEREK MOUNTFIELD

Central defender in Wales. Previous club: Tranmere Rovers. Age: 22.

Old man out. Everton's only representative yet to be invited to play full international squad. Played in England under-21 and B sides after taking over from Higgins last season. Scored 14 goals this season, including equalizer against Ipswich Town in sixth round, and winner against Luton Town in semi-final.

### PETER REID

Midfield. Previous club: Bolton Wanderers. Age: 22.

Player of the Year by fellow professionals. Fulfilling potential shown during 225 appearances at Bolton. Won six England under-21 caps, but suffered series of injuries that hampered his progress. Influential figure, promoted to senior international squad this week.

### TREVOR STEVEN

Midfield. Previous club: Burnley. Age: 21.

Hailed as England's "new Coppell". Youngest and, in absence of Heath, most expensive asset (£325,000) in Everton side. Scored during first full international appearance, against Republic of Ireland, and could establish himself during the next month. Claimed crucial second goal that kept Everton in Wednesday's Cup Winners' Cup final victory.

### GRAEME SHARP

Forward. Previous club: Dumbarton. Age: 24.

Never once seemed a misnomer. Could yet overtake Dixon and Lineker as first division's leading scorer. Needs four goals in remaining three League fixtures to secure Everton's first goal against Watford in last season's final, but, apart from two penalties, has not scored since in competition.

### ANDY CRAW

Forward. Previous club: Dundee United, Aston Villa, Wolverhampton Wanderers. Age: 29.

Elder statesman and member of million-pound club. Howard Kendall admits that buying him for £250,000 (£1,219,000 less than Wolves paid for him) was his biggest gamble. More than adequate replacement for Heath. Scored second goal against Watford. Fourth final at Wembley and yet to finish on losing side.

### PAUL BRACEWELL

Midfield. Previous clubs: Stoke City, Sunderland. Age: 22.

Shropshire lad. Sold twice for £250,000, signed for Everton four days before last year's final. Made debut at Wembley in Charity Shield victory over Liverpool. Appointed captain at Stoke. Regular member of England's triumphant under-21 side in last season's European tournament. With Reid, about to join senior party for first time.

### SHEDDY

Midfield. Previous clubs: Hereford, Liverpool. Age: 25.

Checkered career. Born in Wales, represented Northern Ireland as a senior. Turned professional at 16 and was rejected at Anfield after three appearances in first team. Missed game against England through injury, and watched last season's final on television with a leg in plaster.

## Breath of Bel Air may spur Lewis to long jump record

From Pat Butcher, Los Angeles

Carl Lewis, or "King Carl" to both his admirers and detractors, could finally add the cachet of world record holder to his crown of four Olympic gold medals by improving on Bob Beamon's 8.90 metres long jump here this afternoon.

On the way to the second of those Olympic events last summer, Lewis only needed two out of his six long jumps. That was good enough to win. But 90,000 spectators in the Coliseum boomed him when they realized that Lewis was not going to attack the record that Beamon set at the Mexico Olympic Games in 1968.

It was the altitude, an aid to the "explosive" events like sprints and jumping, which helped Beamon to that record. And it could be the atmospheric conditions which will also help Lewis this afternoon.

Although everyday Los Angeles is very different to the Los Angeles that we saw during the Olympics - indeed we only saw Los Angeles last summer because most people had left town and taken their cars with them. Therefore, there was no smog. Well, the cars are long since back, clogging the sky and the inapparently named freeways.

Fortunately, Drake Stadium, the venue for today's Pepsi Meet, is in the hilly and aptly-named Bel Air. The long-jump pit is set in the lee of the hill with favourable following winds, which however must not be more than two metres per second limit.

Lewis admits that this is one of his favourite pits. It was here he first exceeded 8.50m, and last year he had a marginal foul jump, therefore unmeasured, which many people thought to be longer than Beamon's record. It is this short cut as he did here wants to do his best. His best is 8.79m, just more than four inches off Beamon's and detractors could finally add the cachet of world record holder to his crown of four Olympic gold medals by improving on Bob Beamon's 8.90 metres long jump here this afternoon.

The meeting worthy of being the first big outdoor event in Los Angeles since the Olympics. Lewis heads a line-up which includes Joachim Cruz, the Olympic 800 metres champion, who runs in the mile, and Jamille, the 100 metres sprinter, who is also a television commentator here suggested, made the Olympic 400 and 800 metres winners look as if they were jogging.

Valerie Brisco-Hooks and Denise Onley-Page compete in the 200 metres. Johnny Gray and Billy Konchellah in the 800 metres. Brian Oldfield, David Laut and Augie Wolf in the shot, and the pole vault features Perry Quanton and Mike Tully, the Olympic gold and silver medal winners, and Bill Olsen, the former holder of the world's indoor best.

It will be Cruz's first serious attempt at a mile since he lost here to Steve Scott by 0.11sec last year, the young Brazilian's only defeat of the season. And the likelihood is that Scott's five wins in a row will not be extended.

Jack Buckner, the only Briton here for this and the first two Mobil Grand Prix meetings in the next fortnight, was taken aback when he heard that Cruz and Scott were looking for a 1m 54.00sec first half-mile, and Buckner is barely into his track work. But reaction to his 27.49 10km on the road in Cardiff last week suggests that his hosts are expecting him to do well on this short cut as he did here indoors during the winter.

### RUGBY UNION

## English guinea pigs advised on new laws

From David Hands, Rugby Correspondent, Whangarei

Few tours, to or from Britain, pass without some complaint about the refereeing. With the increased publicity rugby has received, controversial decisions come under greater scrutiny and every time a law is changed its effect is closely monitored.

England go into the first game of their New Zealand tour against North Auckland today as guinea pigs for the experimental scrummage and ruck/maul laws introduced by the international board in March. In training at Oxnard Park, near London, a local referee, about New Zealand interpretation of the law.

The change, designed to decrease injuries, prohibits players going into scrum, ruck or maul with shoulders lower than the hips in the hope that there will be fewer collapsed scrums and that players will be encouraged to stay on their feet during loose play. We must decide virtually instantaneously on our approach to the new law", Martin Green, England's tour coach, said.

"It does favour the New Zealand kind of approach", he says, "we have decided we must play the game more on our feet. When British forwards dive on the ball on the ground it doesn't help sustain any forward momentum. To this end Green has had his players, backs and forwards, working on keeping their feet in the tackle.

The feeling after yesterday's technical discussions was that New Zealand referees will insist on front rows adopting a bent scrum position before the scrum engages to avoid the least element of a charge, and that the ball will be put out so fast that the front rows will have no time to engage in the physical confrontations which have distinguished British teams of the past.

It seems something of a pious hope, though, if the front rows do sustain the required height, Brian England's hooker, is contemplating striking with his left foot at times, as well as the right he would normally use. It is possible to envisage a series of frustrating, whistle-blown scrums which will charm no-one. Still, the law must be given its chance.

Keith Lawrence, today's referee, and Bob Francis, New Zealand's leading official, will be running the line in England's two internationals at Christchurch on June 1 and Wellington on June 8. Both games will be handled by Kerry Fitzgerald, the Australian who created a good impression when he refereed the five nations games between Ireland, France and Wales-Ireland last season.

Francis will have further duties later next month when he is to referee the internationals between Argentina and France on June 22 and 29. Lawrence will officiate in Australia's two internationals with Canada on June 15 and 23 and David Burnett (Ireland) has been given the Bledisloe Cup match between New Zealand and Australia in Auckland on June 29.

### Morgan sees anti-racist

From David Hands

There was a peaceful exchange of views regarding sporting links with South Africa when Derek Morgan, England's tour manager, met John Minto, the chairman of the Anti-Apartheid Sports Campaign (AASC) at the team hotel yesterday.

The meeting coincided with the announcement of a change to the All Blacks' tour itinerary in South Africa later this summer, which will now include a game against the Coloured South African Rugby Federation at Stellenbosch at the expense of the scheduled game against a South African Invitation XV at Port Elizabeth, a venue not many miles from the trouble-torn Uitenhage area.

Mr Minto expressed himself happy that the meeting had taken place, since the New Zealand Rugby Union has consistently refused to meet HART. Mr Morgan, who was accompanied by Martin Green, the coach, and Vic Hinton, the NZRU liaison officer, agreed that HART had the right to make peaceful demonstrations and accepted some literature for his tour. He said 10 players who toured South Africa with England last year.

"HART members put forward very positively and firmly their views about the situation and did not have rugby relations with South Africa," Mr Morgan said. "I put forward some alternative views and eyes to eye."

### TODAY'S FIXTURES

Kick off 3.0 unless stated

FA Cup Final: Manchester United (at Wembley)

Scottish FA Cup Final: Celtic v Dundee United (at Hampden Park)

HELLINIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Florina Town v Marousi (19.30); League Cup: Paphos v Marousi (19.30); Second division: Paphos v Marousi (19.30); Third division: Paphos v Marousi (19.30); Fourth division: Paphos v Marousi (19.30); Fifth division: Paphos v Marousi (19.30); Sixth division: Paphos v Marousi (19.30); Seventh division: Paphos v Marousi (19.30); Eighth division: Paphos v Marousi (19.30); Ninth division: Paphos v Marousi (19.30); Tenth division: Paphos v Marousi (19.30); Eleventh division: Paphos v Marousi (19.30); Twelfth division: Paphos v Marousi (19.30); Thirteenth division: Paphos v Marousi (19.30); Fourteenth division: Paphos v Marousi (19.30); Fifteenth division: Paphos v Marousi (19.30); Sixteenth division: Paphos v Marousi (19.30); Seventeenth division: Paphos v Marousi (19.30); Eighteenth division: Paphos v Marousi (19.30); Nineteenth division: Paphos v Marousi (19.30); Twentieth division: Paphos v Marousi (19.30); Twenty-first division: Paphos v Marousi (19.30); 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# Gower's one-day reign continues and black sheep return to fold

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

The England selectors gave the first indication yesterday of their present train of thought. They appointed Gower as England's captain for the three one-day internationals against Australia, at the end of this month and the beginning of next, and chose four of the players who have been barred from Test cricket since going to South Africa with a scratch team in 1982, to appear for MCC against the Australians at Lord's next week.

Gower first. He has not been named as captain for the full series of six Test matches because of his recent batting form: since being appointed England's captain a year ago he has been, as a batsman, nothing like at his best. Competition for batting places in England's side this summer will be pretty hot, and Gower is not a sufficiently good captain, in the way that Brearley was, to be chosen as a tactician first, and a run-getter second. I'm sure he will play a lot more Test matches for England, if not necessarily as captain.

Peter May, the chairman of the England selectors, referred to next Wednesday's match as a "Test trial". Although, an encouragement to those who are playing, this need not deter some who are not. Gating, Downton and Foster, as well as Gower, are sure to play, in the first Test match, so long as they are fit.

It is relevant, too, that the choice of this MCC side was restricted to one player from each county. Otherwise Embury could have been in, as well as Williams, Robinson as well as French, perhaps Tremlett and Robin Smith as well as Nicholas.

Much was written by those with a political axe to grind that Gower's side in South Africa was a collection of "has-beens".

## Last three rebels

Johannesburg (Reuters) - The three Australian cricketers to complete the 17-man rebel squad to tour South Africa this year were named here yesterday.

Geoff Dakin, president of the South African Cricket Union, said they were Greg Shipperd, Trevor Hohns and Michael Taylor.

MCC TEAM: M Nicholas (Hampshire), W Athey (Gloucestershire), G Fowler (Lancashire), B French (Nottinghamshire), G Gooch (Essex), A Lamb (Northamptonshire), S. M. Waite (Yorkshire), D Thomas (Surrey), D Underwood (Kent), P Willis (Leicestershire), N Williams (Middlesex).

● Lancashire have already sold £100,000 worth of tickets for the Texaco international between England and Australia at Old Trafford on May 30.

## Bedfordshire plump for home talent

Minor Counties Cricket by Michael Berry

Minor counties cricket comes to an end of an era this year with the decision to ban all overseas players from the competition.

The ban was passed at the age in December and has been greeted since by a mixture of support and disapproval. While the motives cannot be questioned if English cricket in general is to benefit, the effect of the move might be easy to assess in the short term.

In the meantime the ruling has restricted but not halted the flow of imports for this season. Significantly, the heaviest presence is an eastern division that is widely acknowledged as the stronger of the two regional sections.

The most notable newcomers are Dilip Vengarkar, the Indian Test batsman at Staffordshire, and Ravi Ratnayake, the Sri Lankan all-rounder who will support a Lincolnshire side missing services from both Geoff Cope (not offered new terms) and David Gilbert (on the Australian tour).

Bedfordshire, the county who forwarded the motion, overseas players, could be the lone eastern division county not to field

a foreign star. Instead, they have signed David Steel, the former Northamptonshire, Derbyshire and England all-rounder.

In the overseas division, the overseas connection has diminished. Gone are Sadiq Mohammad at Cornwall, Mohinder Amarnath at Wiltshire, and Hartley Alleyne appears unlikely to play for Buckinghamshire. Only Shropshire and Cheshire seem undisturbed by the fresh thinking and have two overseas registrations each.

Mushtaq Mohammad and D S de Silva will contest the place at Shropshire while Winston Benjamin, a West Indian fast bowler, could play in the absence of Muddassar Nazar at Cheshire.

Muddassar is one of a handful of overseas players who have done particularly fine service for their adopted counties and will be missed next season. Others bowing out are Wasim Raza (Durham), Derick Parry (Cambridgeshire) and Parvez Mir (Northamptonshire).

The Minor Counties season opens tomorrow with the qualifying round of the English Estates one-day trophy.

between Nottinghamshire and Northants are sure to qualify, and become the favourites to win the cup itself.

If Northants are the winners, then Gloucestershire can still top the group by beating Derbyshire at Cheltenham.

Lancashire, the holders, are the only team out of contention in Group B. Worcestershire, will certainly feature in Monday's draw.

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: Durham 188 (38 overs) 4/58; Derbyshire 113 (38 overs) 4/58; Gloucestershire 225 (not out) 6/71; Northamptonshire 101 (not out) 6/71; Warwickshire 101 (not out) 6/71; Wiltshire 101 (not out) 6/71; Yorkshire 101 (not out) 6/71; Lancashire 101 (not out) 6/71; Essex 101 (not out) 6/71; Kent 101 (not out) 6/71; Middlesex 101 (not out) 6/71; Hampshire 101 (not out) 6/71; Somerset 101 (not out) 6/71; Devon 101 (not out) 6/71; Cornwall 101 (not out) 6/71; Gloucestershire 101 (not out) 6/71; Wiltshire 101 (not out) 6/71; Northamptonshire 101 (not out) 6/71; Warwickshire 101 (not out) 6/71; Worcestershire 101 (not out) 6/71; Shropshire 101 (not out) 6/71; Cheshire 101 (not out) 6/71; Derbyshire 101 (not out) 6/71; Durham 101 (not out) 6/71; Lancashire 101 (not out) 6/71; Essex 101 (not out) 6/71; Kent 101 (not out) 6/71; Middlesex 101 (not out) 6/71; Hampshire 101 (not out) 6/71; Somerset 101 (not out) 6/71; Devon 101 (not out) 6/71; Cornwall 101 (not out) 6/71; Gloucestershire 101 (not out) 6/71; 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RACING: CAUTHEN TO MAKE FINAL DECISION ON DERBY MOUNT AFTER LANFRANCO RUNS AT GOODWOOD NEXT WEEK

# Leading Counsel can advance his Derby Case

From Our Irish Correspondent, Dublin

Vincent O'Brien has still to make up his mind about whether to run his two-year-old colts, Law Society, who won at Chester, and Leading Counsel, who will start a short-priced favourite for this afternoon's Air/Leinster Irish 2,000 Guineas at the Curragh.

O'Brien was most disappointed when at last meeting his Leading Counsel forfeited his unbeaten record in the Ballysax race. This was not even a listed event let alone a Group race, but nevertheless Leading Counsel found himself trying to give away 8lb to another unbeaten contemporary, Theatrical.

Leading Counsel looked certain to win turning into the straight, but quickly tired and let Theatrical up on his inside to win. That looked a sound effort, however, and that opinion was substantiated when Theatrical went on to win the Derrington Stud Derby Trial at Leopardstown last Saturday by double his previous margin.

Last year O'Brien won this race with the George McGrath ridden Sadlers Wells, the stable's second string and there was a whisper yesterday that

Conformist could provide a repeat for McGrath today.

There is nothing in Conformist's record, however, to suggest he is the better of the pair.

Vincent's son, David, provides an interesting challenger in Tripituck, who disappointed behind Oh So Sharp in the Newmarket 1,000 Guineas, but had been rated the top juvenile filly in Europe last season.

After Lester Piggott had won a maiden race on King's River he told Dermot Weld that he would be happy to come back to ride him in the Irish 2,000 Guineas at the Curragh, but his win in the Phoenix Park maiden has worked out so well this week, that Piggott may find himself on the outside of the stable.

Three English trained runners, Mac's Reef, Main Reason and Severn Bore, have made the journey over to the Curragh, even though only Severn Bore among the three has won a race this season. Sun Valley, a start-to-finish winner over a mile at Phoenix Park is the best of the Irish outsiders, but the finish may be an all O'Brien one with Leading Counsel beating Tripituck and Conformist.

## THE CURRAGH

Going: good to firm.  
3.50 AIR/LEINSTER IRISH 2,000 GUINEAS (Group 1; IR£103,230; 1m) (16 runners)

1	0-30	MAC'S REEF D V O'Brien 8-0	R Hogan 13
2	0-30	CELESTIAL BOUNTY D V O'Brien 8-0	M J O'Brien 13
3	0-30	CONFORMIST D V O'Brien 8-0	A J O'Brien 13
4	0-30	CUT FREE M O'Brien 8-0	A J O'Brien 13
5	0-30	SEVERN BORE D V O'Brien 8-0	A J O'Brien 13
6	0-30	TRIPITUCK D V O'Brien 8-0	A J O'Brien 13
7	0-30	MAIN REASON D V O'Brien 8-0	A J O'Brien 13
8	0-30	MAC'S REEF D V O'Brien 8-0	A J O'Brien 13
9	0-30	CELESTIAL BOUNTY D V O'Brien 8-0	A J O'Brien 13
10	0-30	CONFORMIST D V O'Brien 8-0	A J O'Brien 13
11	0-30	CUT FREE M O'Brien 8-0	A J O'Brien 13
12	0-30	SEVERN BORE D V O'Brien 8-0	A J O'Brien 13
13	0-30	TRIPITUCK D V O'Brien 8-0	A J O'Brien 13
14	0-30	MAIN REASON D V O'Brien 8-0	A J O'Brien 13
15	0-30	MAC'S REEF D V O'Brien 8-0	A J O'Brien 13
16	0-30	CELESTIAL BOUNTY D V O'Brien 8-0	A J O'Brien 13

2 Leading Counsel, 3 Tripituck, 4 Celestial Bounty, 5 Kings River, 10 Conformist, 14 Severn Bore, 15 Mac's Reef, 16 Main Reason, 17 Sun Valley, 18 Tripituck, 19 Oh So Sharp, 20 Law Society, 21 Sadlers Wells, 22 George McGrath, 23 Vincent O'Brien, 24 David O'Brien, 25 Lester Piggott, 26 Dermot Weld, 27 Vincent O'Brien, 28 David O'Brien, 29 Lester Piggott, 30 Dermot Weld, 31 Vincent O'Brien, 32 David O'Brien, 33 Lester Piggott, 34 Dermot Weld, 35 Vincent O'Brien, 36 David O'Brien, 37 Lester Piggott, 38 Dermot Weld, 39 Vincent O'Brien, 40 David O'Brien, 41 Lester Piggott, 42 Dermot Weld, 43 Vincent O'Brien, 44 David O'Brien, 45 Lester Piggott, 46 Dermot Weld, 47 Vincent O'Brien, 48 David O'Brien, 49 Lester Piggott, 50 Dermot Weld, 51 Vincent O'Brien, 52 David O'Brien, 53 Lester Piggott, 54 Dermot Weld, 55 Vincent O'Brien, 56 David O'Brien, 57 Lester Piggott, 58 Dermot Weld, 59 Vincent O'Brien, 60 David O'Brien, 61 Lester Piggott, 62 Dermot Weld, 63 Vincent O'Brien, 64 David O'Brien, 65 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Weld, 1151 Vincent O'Brien, 1152 David O'Brien, 1153 Lester Piggott, 1154 Dermot Weld, 1155 Vincent O'Brien, 1156 David O'Brien, 1157 Lester Piggott, 1158 Dermot Weld, 1159 Vincent O'Brien, 1160 David O'Brien, 1161 Lester Piggott, 1162 Dermot Weld, 1163 Vincent O'Brien, 1164 David O'Brien, 1165 Lester Piggott, 1166 Dermot Weld, 1167 Vincent O'Brien, 1168 David O'Brien, 1169 Lester Piggott, 1170 Dermot Weld, 1171 Vincent O'Brien, 1172 David O'Brien, 1173 Lester Piggott, 1174 Dermot Weld, 1175 Vincent O'Brien, 1176 David O'Brien, 1177 Lester Piggott, 1178 Dermot Weld, 1179 Vincent O'Brien, 1180 David O'Brien, 1181 Lester Piggott, 1182 Dermot Weld, 1183 Vincent O'Brien, 1184 David O'Brien, 1185 Lester Piggott, 1186 Dermot Weld, 1187 Vincent O'Brien, 1188 David O'Brien, 1189 Lester Piggott, 1190 Dermot Weld, 1191 Vincent O'Brien, 1192 David O'Brien, 1193 Lester Piggott, 1194 Dermot Weld, 1195 Vincent O'Brien, 1196 David O'Brien, 1197 Lester Piggott, 1198 Dermot Weld, 1199 Vincent O'Brien, 1200 David O'Brien, 1201 Lester Piggott, 1202 Dermot Weld, 1203 Vincent O'Brien, 1204 David O'Brien, 1205 Lester Piggott, 1206 Dermot Weld, 1207 Vincent O'Brien, 1208 David O'Brien, 1209 Lester Piggott, 1210 Dermot Weld, 1211 Vincent O'Brien, 1212 David O'Brien, 1213 Lester Piggott, 1214 Dermot Weld, 1215 Vincent O'Brien, 1216 David O'Brien, 1217 Lester Piggott, 1218 Dermot Weld, 1219 Vincent O'Brien, 1220 David O'Brien, 1221 Lester Piggott, 1222 Dermot Weld, 1223 Vincent O'Brien, 1224 David O'Brien, 1225 Lester Piggott, 1226 Dermot Weld, 1227 Vincent O'Brien, 1228 David O'Brien, 1229 Lester Piggott, 1230 Dermot Weld, 1231 Vincent O'Brien, 1232 David O'Brien, 1233 Lester Piggott, 1234 Dermot Weld, 1235 Vincent O'Brien, 1236 David O'Brien, 1237 Lester Piggott, 1238 Dermot Weld, 1239 Vincent O'Brien, 1240 David O'Brien, 1241 Lester Piggott, 1242 Dermot Weld, 1243 Vincent O'Brien, 1244 David O'Brien, 1245 Lester Piggott, 1246 Dermot Weld, 1247 Vincent O'Brien, 1248 David O'Brien, 1249 Lester Piggott, 1250 Dermot Weld, 1251 Vincent O'Brien, 1252 David O'Brien, 1253 Lester Piggott, 1254 Dermot Weld, 1255 Vincent O'Brien, 1256 David O'Brien, 1257 Lester Piggott, 1258 Dermot Weld, 1259 Vincent O'Brien, 1260 David O'Brien, 1261 Lester Piggott, 1262 Dermot Weld, 1263 Vincent O'Brien, 1264 David O'Brien, 1265 Lester Piggott, 1266 Dermot Weld, 1267 Vincent O'Brien, 1268 David O'Brien,











